

# THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND  
Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

N° 1996.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1855.

Price Fourpence.  
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**PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.**—Professor TENNANT, F.G.S., will commence a course of Twelve Lectures on GEOLOGY, showing its application to MINING, ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURE, and AGRICULTURE. The Lectures will commence on Wednesday morning, April 25th, at Nine o'clock. Fee, £1 11s. 6d.  
R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

**LECTURES TO WORKING MEN, being** the third and last of these Courses for the present season, at the Museum of Practical Geology, Jernyn Street. Six Lectures on the **STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE HUMAN BODY**, by THOS. H. HUXLEY, F.R.S., to be commenced on Monday, April 30th, at 8 o'clock P.M. Tickets may be obtained at the Museum by Working Men only, on Monday, April 23rd, and following days, from 10 to 5 o'clock, upon payment of a registration fee of 6d. for the whole course.  
TRENHAM BECKS, Registrar.

**GUY'S.**—The Summer Session commences on Tuesday, the 1st of May. Gentlemen desirous of becoming Students must produce satisfactory testimony as to their character and conduct. They are required to pay £40 for the first year, £40 for the second year, and £10 for every succeeding year of attendance. One payment of £100 entitles a Student to a perpetual ticket.

Clinical Clerks, Dressers, Ward Clerks, Dressers' Reporters, Obstetric Residents, and Dressers in the Eye Wards, are selected according to merit from those Students who have attended a second year.  
Mr. Stocker, Apothecary to Guy's Hospital, will enter Students, and give any further information required.  
April 17, 1855.

**EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.** Incorporated by Royal Charter.—The THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY IS NOW OPEN from 9 A.M. until dusk. Admission, 1s.  
ALFRED CLINT, Hon. Secretary.  
Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East.

**ART-UNION OF LONDON.**—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, to receive the Council's Report, and to distribute the amount subscribed for the purchase of Works of Art, will be held at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, by the kind permission of J. B. Buckstone, Esq., on Tuesday, the 31st inst., at eleven and twelve o'clock. The Right Hon. Lord Montagu, President. The receipt for the current year will be procured admission for member and friends.  
46, West Strand,  
April.  
GEO. GODWIN, Hon. Sec.  
LEWIS POOCK, J. Sec.

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**—GARDEN EXHIBITIONS. Notice is hereby given, that the FIRST EXHIBITION of the Season will take place, by permission of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Great Exhibition of 1851, in the GROUNDS of GORE HOUSE, on Wednesday, May 16. Privileged Tickets at 3s. 6d. each are now issuing to Fellows of the Society, or their orders, at 21, Regent Street, daily from 11 to 4.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.**—An EXHIBITION of the finest ENGLISH, FRENCH and ITALIAN PHOTOGRAPHS is now open, at the Photographic Institution, 165, New Bond Street. Morning, from 10 to 5. Admission, with Catalogue, 1s. Evening, from 7 to 9. Admission, 6d.

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**DR. KINKEL'S** Classes for Ladies, in GERMAN and the HISTORY OF ART, and Madame KINKEL'S Classes in SINGING and HARMONY, will recommence after April 16, at their residence, 6, Eastbourne Terrace. Twelve Lectures in English, on the History of Modern Art from the Sixteenth Century. An Advanced German Class for the History of German Literature during the Nineteenth Century, with Practice in Composition and Conversation. Two German Evening Classes for Gentlemen. Particulars in the Prospectus, to be applied for to Dr. Kinkel, 6, Eastbourne Terrace, Paddington.

**ROBERT HARDWICKE, PRINTER and PUBLISHER,** 34, Duke Street, Piccadilly, begs to inform Authors and possessors of MSS. desirous of publishing Works on any topic requiring extensive and immediate publicity, that he has at his command ample funds of type and machinery expressly adapted for printing Books, Pamphlets, Essays, Poems, &c., with the most despatch and economy. Instructions to Authors with specimens of Type and sizes of pages, post free on receipt of six shillings.

## MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS.

**MR. L. A. LEWIS** will Sell, at his House, 125, Fleet Street, This Day, 21st, and Monday, 23rd, Theological and Miscellaneous Books, including Dodley's Annual Register, 1758 to 1836, 79 vols.; Encyclopædia Britannica, 50 vols.; Metastasio Opera, 12 vols., large paper; Dr. Adam Clarke's Bib'e, 8 vols., original edition; Phillips' General Atlas; Russell's Modern Europe, 4 vols.; a few Prints, &c.

## STATIONERY, ENGRAVINGS, BOOKS IN QUIRES, &c.

**MR. L. A. LEWIS** will Sell, at his House, 125, Fleet Street, on Wednesday, 25th, 43 copies of Keate's Poetical Works; 130 Coleridge's Literary Remains, Vols. III. and IV.; 40 Mosheim's Commentaries, by Vidali, 3 vols.; 770 Donaldson's Enemies to Agriculture; the Metal Type and Casts used in Philidor on Chess; 65 Walker's Chess and Chess Players; and numerous other books, in quantities, all new, in boards; Useful Stationery; Engravings, framed and unframed.

**MR. PICKERING'S** STOCK, 10,000 VOLUMES, ALL NEW, IN BOARDS. **MR. L. A. LEWIS** will Sell, at his House, 125, Fleet Street, on Thursday, 26th, and two following days, the fifth portion of the late Mr. Pickering's stock of Modern Books, including numerous copies of most of his Publications, all new, in cloth. Catalogues now ready; if in the country, 6 postage stamps required.

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## ENGRAVINGS AND BOOKS OF PRINTS.

**MR. L. A. LEWIS** will Sell, at his House, 125, Fleet Street, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, May 1 and 2, at six o'clock, Modern Engravings and Books of Prints. Catalogues now ready; if in the country, 6 stamps required.

**THE QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. CXCII.,** is published THIS DAY.

## CONTENTS.

- I. THE CRYSTAL PALACE.
  - II. VENETIAN DESPATCHES—EMBASSY TO HENRY VIII.
  - III. MADAME DE MAINTENON.
  - IV. THE FORESTER.
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  - VI. DEATH OF THE EMPEROR NICOLAUS.
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On 30th April,  
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LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1855.

## REVIEWS.

*A Manual of Elementary Geology.* By Sir Charles Lyell, M.A., F.R.S. Fifth Edition, greatly enlarged. Murray.

THE recent loss, within a few days of each other, of two of our most eminent geologists—one the founder of the first British Geological Society, the other of the first British Geological Government School—makes us value more than ever the precious researches of those of similar attainments who are still spared to us. Sir Charles Lyell continues to follow up his geological investigations with such unremitting vigour, that the additions to his noble philosophic treatises carry the importance of new works.

More than three years have passed since the last edition of the *Manual of Geology* was published. During that interval many new facts have been ascertained, and important subjects have undergone thorough discussion. Among the latter may be specified the classification and nomenclature of the Silurian and Cambrian rocks; the denudation of the weald; the age and origin of auriferous alluvial deposits; and the bearing of recent discoveries of fossil vertebrata on the doctrine of progressive development. The results of the discussions on these subjects are given with the author's usual precision and clearness. Sir Charles Lyell has himself been active and successful in new geological researches. His last trip to Madeira and the Canaries has enabled him to describe, from personal observation, regions for which he had before been dependent on the testimony of others. The chapter on these islands forms a marked feature of the present edition. A visit to the island of Palma—a spot rendered classical by the description of Von Buch—gives opportunity for a full discussion of the mode of formation of craters of elevation, of which that of Ehrenburg was regarded by Von Buch as a type. We extract some paragraphs from the account of the island of Madeira, the description of which is illustrated by numerous sections and sketches from the pencil of the author's fellow-traveller, Mr. Hartung, of Königsberg:—

"The oldest formation known in Madeira is of submarine volcanic origin, and referable perhaps to the Miocene tertiary epoch. Tuffs and limestones containing marine shells and corals occur at S. Vicente on the northern coast, where they rise to the height of more than 1200 feet above the sea. They bear testimony to an upheaval to that amount, at least, since the commencement of volcanic action in those parts.

"The pebbles in these marine beds are well rounded and polished, strongly contrasting in that respect with the angular fragments of similar varieties of volcanic rocks so frequent in the superimposed tuffs and agglomerates formed above the level of the sea.

"The length of Madeira from east to west is about thirty miles, its breadth from north to south being twelve miles. \* \* \* In the central region, as well as in the adjoining region on each side of it, are seen, as in the centre of Palma, a great number of dikes penetrating through a vast accumulation of ejectamenta. Here also, as in Palma, we observe as we recede from the centre, that the dikes decrease in number, and beds of scorie, lapilli, agglomerate, and tuff begin to alternate with stony lavas, until at the distance of a mile or more from the central axis, the volcanic mass consists almost exclusively of streams or sheets of basalt, with some red partings of ochreous clay or laterite, probably ancient soils.

"The Pico Torres, more than 6000 feet high, is one of many central peaks, composed of ejected materials. By the union of the foundations of many similar peaks, ridges or mountain crests are formed, from which the tops of vertical dikes project like turrets above the weathered surface of the softer beds of tuff and scorie. Hence the broken and picturesque outline, giving a singular and romantic character to the scenery of the highest part of Madeira. North is seen Pico Ruivo, the most elevated peak in the island, yet exceeding by a few feet only the height of Pico Torres. It is similar in composition, but its uppermost part, 400 feet high, retains a more perfectly conical form, and has a dike at its summit with streams of scoriaceous lava adhering to its steep flanks. \* \* \*

"As a general rule, the lavas of Madeira, whether vesicular or compact, do not constitute continuous sheets parallel to each other. When viewed in the sea-cliffs in sections transverse to the direction in which they flowed, they vary greatly in thickness, even if followed for a few hundred feet or yards, and they usually thin out entirely in less than a quarter of a mile. In the ravines which radiate from the centre of the island, the beds are more persistent, but even here they usually are seen to terminate, if followed for a few miles; their thickness also being very variable, and sometimes increasing suddenly from a few feet to many yards.

"I saw no remains of fossil plants in any of the red partings or laterites above alluded to; but Mr. Smith, of Jordanhill, was more fortunate in 1840, having met with the carbonized branches and roots of shrubs in some red clays under basalt near Funchal. Nevertheless, Mr. Hartung and I obtained satisfactory evidence in the northern part of the island, in the ravine of S. Jorge, of the former existence of terrestrial vegetation, and consequently of the subaerial origin of a large portion of the lavas of Madeira.

"A deep valley, called the Curral, surrounded by precipices from 1500 to 2500 feet high, and by peaks of still greater elevation, occurs in the middle of Madeira. It has been compared by some to a crater or caldera, for its upper portion is situated in the region where dikes and ejectamenta abound. The Curral, however, extends, without diminishing in depth, to below the region of numerous dikes. Nor do the volcanic masses dip away in all directions from the Curral, as from a central point, or from the hollow axis of a cone. The Curral is in fact one only of three great valleys which radiate from the most mountainous district, a second depression, called the Serra d'Agua, being almost as deep. This cavity is also drained by a river flowing to the south; while a third valley, namely, that of the Janella, sends its waters to the north. \* \* \*

There is no essential difference between the shape of these three great valleys and many of those in the Alps and Pyrenees, where the valley-making process can have had no connexion with any superficial volcanic action.

"I may here allude to another feature in the mineralogical structure of Madeira, namely, that most commonly the uppermost of all the volcanic rocks, when we ascend to heights of 1200 feet or more above the sea, consist of compact felspathic trap, with much olivine, separating into spheroidal masses several feet in diameter, especially when some of the contained iron has become more highly oxidized in the atmosphere. M. Delesse, after examining my specimens, informs me that in France they would call this rock basalt, although it is often without augite, and simply a mixture of blackish green felspar with olivine. Whatever name we assign to it, the superficial envelope of the island may be said to consist of this trap, except near the sea, where basalts occur which have not the same spheroidal structure.

"Among other indications of a considerable difference of age, even in the superficial volcanic formations of Madeira, I may remark that many of the central peaks seem to be the mere skeletons of cones of eruption; whereas the forms of the more modern cones are regular, and have no protruding dikes on their summits or flanks."

In the chapter on the Silurian and Cambrian groups, some important deductions are drawn from the progressive discovery of fossil vertebrata in rocks which formerly were considered almost or altogether azoic. The following remarks are made on the bearings of these discoveries on controversies which have recently occupied much attention:—

"How many living writers are there who, before the year 1844, generalized fearlessly on the non-existence of reptiles before the Permian era! Yet, in the course of ten years, they have lived to see the earliest known date of the creation of reptiles carried back successively, first to the Carboniferous, and then to the Upper Devonian periods. Before the year 1818, it was the popular belief that the Paleotherium of the Paris gypsum and its associates were the first warm-blooded quadrupeds that ever trod the surface of this planet. So fixed was this idea in the minds of the majority of naturalists, that, when at length the Stonesfield Mammalia awoke from a slumber of three or four great periods, the apparition failed to make them renounce their creed.

'Unwilling I my lips unclose—  
Leave, oh, leave me to repose.'

First, the antiquity of the rock was called in question; and then the mammalian character of the relics. Even long after all controversy was set at rest on these points, the real import of the new revelation, as bearing on the doctrine of progressive development, was far from being duly appreciated.

"It is clear that the first two or three species, encountered in any country or in the rocks of any epoch, cannot be taken as a type or standard for measuring the grade of organization of any terrestrial fauna, ancient or modern. Suppose that the two or three oolitic species first brought to light had really been all marsupial, as was for a time erroneously imagined, this would not have borne out the inference which some attempted to deduce from it, namely, that the time had not yet come for the creation of the placental tribes. Or, if when some monodelph were at last actually recognised (at Stonesfield), they happened to be of diminutive size, and to belong to the insectivora, we are not entitled to deduce from such data that the oolitic fauna ranked low in the general scale, as the insectivora may do in an existing fauna. The real significance of the discoveries alluded to arises from the aid they afford us in estimating the true value of negative evidence, when brought to bear on certain speculative questions. Every zoologist will admit that between the first creation and the final extinction of any one of the five oolitic mammalia now known, there were many successive generations; and, if the geographical range of each species was limited (which we have no right to assume), still there must have been several hundred individuals in each generation, and probably, when the species reached its maximum, several thousands. When, therefore, we encounter for the first time in 1854 two or three jaws of a *Spalacotherium* in the Purbeck limestone, after countless specimens of Mollusca and Crustacea, and hundreds of insects, fish, and reptiles had been previously collected from the same beds, we are not simply taught that these individual quadrupeds flourished at the era in question, but that thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, of the same species peopled the land without leaving behind them any trace of their existence, whether in the shape of fossil bones or footprints; or, if they left any traces, these have eluded a long and most persevering search.

"Moreover, we must never forget how many of the dates are due to British skill and energy, Great Britain being still the only country in which mammalia have been found in Oolitic rocks; the only region where any reptiles have been detected in strata as old as the Devonian; the only one wherein the bones of birds have been traced back as far as the London Clay. And, if geology had been cultivated with less zeal in our island, we should know nothing as yet of two extensive assemblages of tertiary mammalia of higher antiquity than the



fauna of the Paris Gypsum, (already cited as having once laid claim to be the earliest that ever flourished on the earth)—namely, first, that of the Heodon series; and secondly, one long prior to it in date, and antecedent to the London Clay. This last has already afforded us indications of *Quadrumana*, *Cheiroptera*, *Pachydermata*, and *Marsupialia*. How then can we doubt, if every area on the globe were to be studied with the same diligence,—if all Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australia, were equally well known, that every date assigned by us for the earliest recorded appearance of fish, reptiles, birds, and mammals, would have to be altered? Nay, if one other area, such as part of Spain, of the size of England and Scotland, were subjected to the same scrutiny, (and we are still very imperfectly acquainted even with Great Britain,) each class of Vertebrata would probably recede one or more steps further back into the abyss of time: fish might penetrate into the Lower Silurian,—reptiles into the Lower Devonian,—mammalia into the Lower Trias,—birds into the Chalk or Oolite,—and, if we turn to the Invertebrata, Trilobites and Cephalopods might descend into the Lower Cambrian,—and some stray zoophyte, like the *Oldhamia*, into rocks now styled 'azoic.'

"Yet, after these and many more analogous revisions of the Table, it might still be just as easy as now to found a theory of progressive development on the new set of positive and negative facts thus established; for the order of chronological succession in the different classes of fossil animals would probably continue the same as now;—in other words, our success in tracing back the remains of each class to remote eras would be greatest in fishes, next in reptiles, next in mammalia, and least in birds. That we should meet with ichthyolites more universally at each era, and at greater depths in the series, than any other class of fossil vertebrata, would follow partly from our having as paleontologists to do chiefly with strata of marine origin, and partly, because bones of fish, however partial and capricious their distribution on the bed of the sea, are nevertheless more easily met with than those of reptiles or mammalia. In like manner, the extreme rarity of birds in recent and Pliocene strata, even in those of freshwater origin, might lead us to anticipate that their remains would be obtained with the greatest difficulty in the older rocks, as the Table proves to be the case,—even in tertiary strata, wherein we can more readily find deposits formed in lakes and estuaries.

"The only incongruity between the geological results, and those which our dredging experiences might have led us to anticipate *a priori*, consists in the frequency of fossil reptiles, and the comparative scarcity of mammalia. It would appear that during all the secondary periods, not even excepting the newest part of the cretaceous, there was a greater development of reptile life than is now witnessed in any part of the globe. The preponderance of this class over the mammalia depended probably on climatal and geographical conditions, for we can scarcely refer it to 'progressive development,' by which the vertebrate type was steadily improving, or becoming more perfect, as time rolled on. We cannot shut our eyes to the positive proofs now obtained of the creation of mammalia before the excess of reptiles had ceased, nay, apparently before it had even reached its maximum.

"In conclusion, I shall simply express my own conviction that we are still on the mere threshold of our inquiries; and that, as in the last fifty years, so in the next half-century, we shall be called upon repeatedly to modify our first opinions respecting the range in time of the various classes of fossil Vertebrata. It would therefore be premature to generalize at present on the non-existence, or even on the scarcity of Vertebrata, whether terrestrial or aquatic, at periods of high antiquity, such as the Silurian and Cambrian."

The soundness of Sir Charles Lyell's philosophical views, and the right spirit with which he observes the facts of geological science,

are strikingly displayed in the concluding remarks of the volume:—

"The theory of the origin of the hypogene rocks, at a variety of successive periods, as expounded in two of the chapters just cited, and still more the doctrine that such rocks may be now in the daily course of formation, has made and still makes its way, but slowly, in favour. The disinclination to embrace it has arisen partly from an inherent obscurity in the very nature of the evidence of plutonic action when developed on a great scale, at particular periods. It has also sprung, in some degree, from extrinsic considerations; many geologists having been unwilling to believe the doctrine of transmutation of fossiliferous into crystalline rocks, because they were desirous of finding proofs of a beginning, and of tracing back the history of our terraqueous system of times anterior to the creation of organic beings. But if these expectations have been disappointed, if we have found it impossible to assign a limit to that time throughout which it hath pleased an Omnipotent and Eternal Being to manifest his creative power, we have at last succeeded beyond all hope in carrying back our researches to times antecedent to the existence of man. We can prove that man had a beginning, and that all the species now contemporary with man, and many others which preceded, had also a beginning, and that, consequently, the present state of the organic world has not gone on from all eternity, as some philosophers have maintained.

"It can be shown that the earth's surface has been remodelled again and again; mountain chains have been raised or sunk; valleys formed, filled up, and then re-excavated; sea and land have changed places; yet throughout all these revolutions, and the consequent alterations of local and general climate, animal and vegetable life has been sustained. This has been accomplished without violation of the laws now governing the organic creation, by which limits are assigned to the variability of species. The succession of living beings appears to have been continued not by the transmutation of species, but by the introduction into the earth from time to time of new plants and animals, and each assemblage of new species must have been admirably fitted for the new states of the globe as they arose, or they would not have increased and multiplied and endured for indefinite periods.

"Astronomy has been unable to establish the plurality of habitable worlds throughout space, however favourable a subject for conjecture and speculation; but geology, although it cannot prove that other planets are peopled with appropriate races of living beings, has demonstrated the truth of conclusions scarcely less wonderful,—the existence on our own planet of so many habitable surfaces, or worlds as they have been called, each distinct in time and peopled with its peculiar races of aquatic and terrestrial beings.

"The proofs now accumulated of the close analogy between extinct and recent species are such as to leave no doubt on the mind that the same harmony of parts and beauty of contrivance which we admire in the living creation has equally characterized the organic world at remote periods. Thus as we increase our knowledge of the inexhaustible variety displayed in living nature, and admire the infinite wisdom and power which it displays, our admiration is multiplied by the reflection, that it is only the last of a great series of pre-existing creations, of which we cannot estimate the number or limit in times past."

In the preface a graceful and just tribute is paid to the memory of the lamented Edward Forbes:—

"I have already alluded to the assistance afforded me by the late Professor Edward Forbes towards the improvement of some parts of this work. His letters suggesting corrections and additions were continued to within a few weeks of his sudden and unexpected death, and I felt most grateful to him for the warm interest, which, in the midst of so many and pressing avocations, he took in the success of my labours. His friendship and the

power of referring to his sound judgment in cases of difficulty on paleontological and other questions were among the highest privileges I have ever enjoyed in the course of my scientific pursuits. Never perhaps has it been the lot of any Englishmen, who had not attained to political or literary eminence, more especially one who had not reached his fortieth year, to engage the sympathies of so wide a circle of admirers, and to be so generally mourned. The untimely death of such a teacher was justly felt to be a national loss; for there was a deep conviction in the minds of all who knew him, that genius of so high an order, combined with vast acquirements, true independence of character, and so many social and moral excellences, would have inspired a large portion of the rising generation with kindred enthusiasm for branches of knowledge hitherto neglected in the education of British youth."

The additional matter in this edition amounts to about a hundred and forty closely printed pages, and two hundred new illustrations are also given, the volume containing in all about seven hundred and fifty woodcuts. The work is now more than ever worthy of being regarded as a standard manual of elementary geology.

*Les Contemporains.* By Eugène de Mirecourt. Paris: Roret et Cie.

POSTERITY stands a very good chance of knowing all that it may wish to know, and, it may be, a trifle more, about the Frenchmen of modern times who have played any part of importance on the public stage, whether literary, political, artistic, commercial, or military; for biographers have *biographed* them over and over again; pen-and-ink portrait-painters have painted them in colours both foul and fair; and, as if this were not enough, many of them have taken the trouble to give the world ponderous memoirs on their own lives. The French undoubtedly excel in the literary sketching of eminent living personages, and there is no branch of their light literature which we, for our parts, read with so much pleasure. But the thing is overdone. On eminent contemporaries alone we have innumerable volumes of one kind or another, and of good, bad, and indifferent quality,—though assuredly the works of Timon, *Sainte Beuve*, and *Un Homme de Rien*, were sufficient, and sufficiently well done, too, for all reasonable purposes. Nevertheless, in the book now before us we have an addition to the batch, and it has, we hear, made considerable sensation in Paris.

Knowing that the gentleman who calls himself Eugène de Mirecourt (the name is an assumed one) has made several attempts to obtain public favour, without success, it was not without surprise that we learned that he had produced a work, and on what might be considered an exhausted subject, too, which had set the Parisians talking, and had consequently obtained an extensive sale. But on dipping into the volume we soon saw 'the reason why.' M. de Mirecourt deals with personalities, which his more distinguished predecessors carefully avoided; not contenting himself with the public lives of his personages, he raises the veil which shrouds their private lives, and boldly puts into print facts which were known only to a narrow circle, or which at least were never in print before. The Parisians, a very curious people, are gratified exceedingly with this sort of gossip. Animated with somewhat the same spirit as that which caused the Athenians to be 'bored' by hearing Aristotle



constantly called The Just, they see no harm in vexing their really eminent men by the exposure of their little foibles or their secret history; and they take quite a Nemesis-like pleasure in having their unworthy notabilities—of whom, by the way, they have not a few—exposed in their true colours. For ourselves, we are not disposed altogether to blame M. de Mirecourt, and still less disposed are we altogether to praise him. In some of his sketches he has evidently laboured to cause needless pain to his victims, and in others has as evidently drawn on his imagination for facts. These of course call for censure; but we see no objection to others, in which harmless curiosity is satisfied, or in which viciousness is held up to scorn. We blame strongly, for example, the notice on Madame Sand, because it contains some statements which are untrue, and others which are only made for the purpose of wanton annoyance. That on M. Guizot also seems to us of, to say the least, enormous impertinence. It actually represents that eminent man, who is known to all the world for his austere puritanism and his fervent piety, as, when Prime Minister of France, occupying himself like a shallow Parisian coxcomb in affairs of gallantry, and in writing and receiving *billets doux*. But we can find no harm, in reading in the notice on Scribe that that eminent dramatist has earned by his pen not less than 120,000*l.* or thereabouts, that he drives very hard bargains with his publishers and on the theatrical managers; and that having perceived, when drawing up a list of the 350 pieces which bear his name, that their titles begin with every letter in the alphabet except K, Y, Z, he had the childish weakness to make the alphabet complete by writing three new pieces, with titles commencing with those letters. Still less do we censure our author for having the courage to lash Mdlle. Rachel for her avarice, or other equally notorious public offenders;—it is always pleasant to see vice punished.

As a specimen of the author's work, we extract a few lines about Rachel:—

"She earns, taking one year with another, from 350,000 francs to 400,000 francs (14,000*l.* to 16,000*l.*) But she is a Jewess in all the force of a metallic rapacity ordinarily ascribed to that designation. Gold—more gold, is her motto. It is one of the necessities of her existence to gain it. Beyond bags of silver coin, and rouleaux of gold, and diamonds, and precious stones, Mdlle. Felix sees nothing.

"About eighteen months ago she was attacked with a serious mental and physical malady, and all attempts to cure her were vain. At length her father had a bright idea—he presented to her the box containing her gold and jewels. She immediately plunged her hands into it; her eyes became animated; her cheeks flushed; a thrill of pleasure ran through her frame. The Jewess was delighted! The box was presented again and again, and the physicians declare that the sight of it did more for her cure than all their care and medicines.

Rachel is not kind to her fellow comedians. Her colleagues cannot do otherwise than admire her talent, but they have no esteem for her character.

"Why," once said some one to Mdlle. Judith, the charming actress of the Français, 'do you always speak ill of Rachel. You are both of the same religion!' 'True,' answered Judith, 'but I am only a Jewess, whereas Rachel is a regular Jew!'

"She is at present worth more than 80,000*l.*

"Out of the pale of her family, she gives not a farthing; and she allows herself to be cited before

the *juge de paix* sooner than pay a franc she thinks too much.

"The theatre alone is not her sole source of income. She has numerous admirers who take pleasure in placing treasures at her feet. If at times they are more economical than she likes, she employs very ingenious means of stimulating their generosity."

*Frescoes and Sketches from Memory.* By Theresa C. I. West, Authoress of 'A Summer Visit to Ireland.' J. Mitchell.

*The Transcript and Other Poems.* By William Ball. W. and F. G. Cash.

*Berries and Blossoms: a Verse Book for Young People.* By T. Westwood. Darton and Co.

*Randolph: a Poem in Two Cantos.* Saunders and Otley.

*Lays of Love and Heroism, Legends, Lyrics, and Other Poems.* By Eleanor Darby. Hope and Co.

THE first of these poetical volumes attracts the eye by its imposing appearance, being of goodly size, and set off with every typographical and artistic embellishment. With books as with people, too showy an exterior often bespeaks lack of solidity or sense within. But in the present case we are agreeably disappointed. The binding of white and blue and gold incloses a work of considerable merit, the production of a clever and accomplished mind. Unequal the pieces are, many of them being neither very able nor original, but the attention is frequently arrested by passages of much force and beauty. The first poem is on a theme unattempted yet in rhyme, if not in prose, The Sedan Chair:—

"One sings the Sofa; others laud the Fan;  
My Muse selects a not unfruitful theme;  
She chaunts the good commodious Sedan,  
Its merits from oblivion to redeem,  
Which are not duly prized as it should seem.  
Grant that in glittering gauds, and thundering speed,  
Vie with yon Chariot it never can,  
What then? Shall it the less deserve the meed  
Of praise, whose stealthy pace is suited to my need?  
"Say, ye whom sickness' hand hath laid full low,  
Have ye not cause to bless its gentle motion?  
Its sides impervious to the gusts that blow,  
When all without is Winter's wild commotion,  
Rock'd as by Summer airs upon the Ocean?  
The Gondola of Earth! What safer place  
Than this to give sweet speech to Love's emotion?  
Saving its sole defect—it hath not space  
For two fond loving souls to rest with equal grace."

The sedan, however, is soon quitted, and the discursive strains more fitly belong to the secondary title of the poem, Fireside Memories. The pieces which we like best in the whole volume are entitled, Lays of the Seasons, or Love for all Time. Of the four lays we give those of Spring and of Autumn:

"SPRING.  
"When Spring returns, and soft enlivening showers  
Wash all the meads and spangle all the bowers;  
When laurel buds unfold their lengthening stems,  
And starry May-wreaths hang like diadems  
Upon the hedge-row in their gala dress,  
And lilacs, with their scent, the air oppress;  
When the laburnum waves upon the breeze  
Whose soft caresses woo the yielding trees,  
And the green-kirtled lilies hang their bells,  
All sweetly strung, like rows of pearly shells;  
When life's a stir in ocean, air, and earth,  
And lambskins frolic in their new-born mirth;  
When from his glossy wing the blackbird shakes  
The shining rain-drops, and glad music makes;  
And the sweet-briar insensibly exhales  
Delicious perfume, and on feathery sails  
The yellow primrose flutters into life,  
And the bold dragon-fly, in idle strife,  
Tilts, as a victorious warrior's winged steed,  
In rapture fierce at yonder bristling reed;  
When mid the lilled roots in ambuscade,  
Of knotted alders dark and freshening shade,  
Where the king-fisher gleams, a water-gem,  
Bright watcher! on the bulrush slender stem;  
Thou throw'st at the flashing line with noiseless fall  
As in the coope begins the cuckoo's call,  
Welcome, and blent with thoughts of youth and play  
With dear companions, in the new-mown hay;—

Oh, friend! when Spring unbids her thousand charms  
And thy worn heart of care and thought disarms,  
Think on our Spring-time!—days of unchecked glee,  
And song, and love!—think tenderly of me!

#### "AUTUMN.

"When Autumn comes, all worn and brown with toll,  
And the rich press o'erflows with wine and oil;  
When dark-browed peasants strip the fruitful vine,  
And round their fronts the cooling foliage wine;  
And yellow harvests sheltered from the gale  
Send up their fresh aroma through the vale,  
Where many a patient Ruth bends o'er the sheaves,  
Scarce visible among the rustling leaves,  
Or binds her modest portion, till the star  
Of evening shines above her from afar,  
Gleaming a diamond on the saffron vest  
Of Autumn on the broad and glowing West;  
When the soft dew begins to drop around,  
And hill and valley seem enchanted ground,  
So clear and mellowed in the evening hour,  
Each glittering casement, and each silvery tower;  
When the brown nuts hang tempting on the bough,  
And the sweet throstle's song's subdued and low,  
And the ripe peaches on the garden wall  
Blush as though Persia's sun had kissed them all;  
When woods still waving are no longer green,  
But gorgeous in their gold and purple sheen;  
And curlews plain above the fairy-rings,  
And mournfully the darling robin sings;  
And those gray sickly flowers, a later birth,  
Succeed the bright-eyed favourites of earth;  
When hunter's horn resounds from hill to hill,  
And to a leaping torrent swells the rill;  
When the bird's song ceases on the flying leaves,  
And o'er the year's decay thy spirit grieves;  
When thought of past and lost assail thy soul,  
And melancholy holds her sad control;  
Let friendship's balm give healing to thy wound!  
If these are fied, believe that one is found,  
Not lightly like the leaves to fall away,  
Proof against time, and nature's own decay.  
Oh! when the heavy sighing of the wind  
Sings youth's sad dirge and seasons left behind,  
Believe no Autumn frost, nor Summer showers,  
Can either quench, or cool, a love like ours!"

There are several well-executed translations, and some original pieces have a freeness and spirit rarely attained by those who write in a foreign language. The volume is inscribed, with warm expressions of admiring affection, to the venerated Walter Savage Landor.

In plainer guise, as befit their origin, appear the poems of William Ball, a member of the Society of Friends. The chief poem seems literally a transcript of the thoughts and feelings of one of that peace-loving, slavery-hating, and actively charitable fraternity. The plan of the poem, and its tone and spirit, are very much after the model of the Task of Cowper, of whom the author is evidently an intense admirer. To the bard of Olney there are many allusions, and the following sonnet expressly describes him:—

#### "COWPER.

"The finest gold the fiercest flame hath tried:  
Who best serves Christ, whose place Himself prepares  
Nearest the Throne, most conflict knows, and bears  
The heaviest cross, ere with Him glorified!  
Yet all his pains and fears, his sighs and prayers,  
Are in Heaven's book, that tells his wanderings wide  
For rest, his tossings on Time's roughest tide,  
Records his tears, numbers his grief-bleach'd hairs!  
His faithful God (with whom the issues be)  
Breaks every bond, turns shadow into morn!  
—Cowper! whose song, like peerless minstrelsy  
In wildwood pour'd from bosom pierc'd with thorn,  
Still, while deluding thrills us! Heaven to Thee  
Solves, in abounding Joy, all mystery!"

The denunciations of formalism in religion, and especially of Tractarianism, or Popery in disguise, are frequent and forcible in The Transcript:—

#### "The secret train

Laid with sure craft by traitors in the camp,  
And fir'd at last, exploded in 'The Tracts.'  
The smoke ascends, darkening the astonished land,  
Breathes it of frankincense or brimstone most?  
Did flames part heaven? or bursts it from the pit?  
Is unity proclaim'd, or trump of strife?  
Is it the note of peace, or war's alarm?  
The march of faith, or knell of charity?  
The smoke ascends; Oxford's artillerymen  
Forbore to light the match till well prepar'd  
With charge sustain'd to pile the sulphurous cloud;  
It withers all it rests on; fogs the streams  
Of learning at their spring; deforms the field  
Of Christian ethics; neath its canopy  
All faces gather blackness, must resign  
The impartial frankness of the cordial day  
That shines beyond ecclesiastical palisade

It scatters mildew o'er a hopeful crop  
And mars with blight 'Young England's' opening bloom!"

In the following lines we hear an echo of Cowper's, beginning,

"He is the freeman whom the truth makes free,  
And all are slaves besides!"—

"The slavery that so late seal'd every spring  
Of innocent joy by nature's God ordain'd  
To gush in human hearts, that quench'd all light  
Of life in sunny isles of dazzling bloom,  
That stud the Caribbean, was a yoke  
Milder and less pernicious, less abhor'd  
Of heaven and heaven-taught spirits, than the bonds  
Woven by man, to fetter to the clod  
The intellect (that else might dare aspire  
Beyond his sway), and bind his brother's soul;  
Knowledge unshar'd, the page of Truth denied,  
The tyrant grasps of either world the powers,  
Puts out the sun of grace that smiles on all  
That he may rule the ascendant; proudly sets  
His nest above the stars; his fellow's mind  
Pins to the dust, and arrogates to bar  
From all inheritance in equal skies!"

Still more obvious is the imitation in the closing lines of the poem of the noble passage in *The Task* on the millennial reign, beginning, "Come, then, and added to thy many crowns":—

"Return, Oh Lord, how long? Thou mad'st the heart,  
And Thou canst melt and mould it as Thou wilt,  
E'en as a man doth turn the water-course  
Within his field, and fertilize the soil:  
Take to Thyself in human hearts Thy power,  
And triumph there; millennial glory then  
Shall yet prevail, shall magnify Thy grace,  
And vindicate Thy truth: Hasten that day  
When, all Thine injur'd workmanship repair'd,  
Thou shalt all spirits gather toward Thyself,  
By gathering to Thy Son; and where He reigns  
Master of all, all are as brethren one;  
As dewdrops that descend on Zion hill  
Mingle together for perpetual green;  
So unity upon the church should rest,  
Diffusing life and blessing evermore.

Then earth, already to relenting Love,  
That erst upon the cloud did set the bow,  
So vast a debtor; constant love that gives  
An equal sun, and sends impartial rain;  
Paternal Love, for spar'd and rescued Earth  
His own and only Son that did not spare;  
—Then Earth, indebted thus, and owing more  
From age to age for growing length and breadth  
Of rule benignant borne by Zion's King—  
Then Earth shall keep her sabbath, shall become  
The accepted altar, whence, in every place  
Sweet incense shall ascend, and offering pure."

We mention the imitation of Cowper not as a demerit, but as a proof of good taste and right feeling on the part of the author. Contrasted with the unnatural originality of some of the spasmodic poets of the present day, it is a pleasant relief to turn to a writer who, if not attaining to the genius and art of the author of *The Task*, treats of similar subjects in a kindred strain of manly sense and unaffected piety.

Good and suitable poetry for children is not often met with, but there is some that can be recommended in this book of 'Berries and Blossoms.' Of didactic and educational verse for juvenile minds, the author remarks justly there is no scarcity, but poetry of a lighter cast is far from being equally abundant. Mr. Westwood has, in several of his rhymes and ballads, hit upon the right strain; and there are few children who would not be delighted with the tale of *The Lion of Samarcand*, or the story of the woodman. The latter, entitled *A Fireside Story*, is capitally told, and might pass with little alteration for a ballad of old times. We must quote shorter pieces, one of which is about the fairies, whom stern educationists would banish from nursery books. It is entitled *Fairy Physic*:—

"Ho, ho!" cried the Fairies, 'here's a cup  
Of dew, that the Sun has clean forgot,  
In his midsummer madness, to drink up;  
Let us quaff to his worshippful health! why not?  
To the Sun's bright health! and, ahem! may he  
Show ever the same short memory!"

"So they sip'd, and they quaff'd, till the cup was dry;  
That the nectar was strong, you may well rely;  
For the wood soon rang with their clain glee,  
And quaint were the mirth and the melody

Of the songs they pour'd on the midnight breeze,  
As they waltzed round hillocks and old oak trees,  
But lo! in the midst of their maddest dance,—  
Poor merry-men all!—a sudden trance  
Overtook them; a torpor whose drowsy might  
Weigh'd their eyelids down in their own despite,  
Hush'd grew their voices, and heavy and slow  
Moved the little feet, so brisk e'en now,  
And heedless of nightcaps and toilet graces,  
In all sorts of postures and all sorts of places,  
They yielded, at last, each falling senseless  
To that torpor's tyrannical influence.  
One fell asleep with his head in the cup  
He had just been draining; one curl'd up  
His leaden limbs in a cranny, where  
A spider, a sort of Giant Despair,  
Tied him fast with a web through his golden hair;  
And one—worst luck of all—allip'd over  
A high bank into a furzy cove,  
Terribly ragged and rough and lonely,  
Where he tore, I fear,—not his jerkin only,  
But neither thorns, nor spiders, nor aught  
That is most abhorrent to fairy thought,  
Had power, at that moment, to loose the yoke  
Of the spell that bound those luckless folk,  
So they slept and slept, and the morning crept  
Up the eastern hills,—and still they slept,

"Aha!" said the Sun, when, call'd to rise,  
He got out of bed with winking eyes,  
And, while his curtain of mist he fur'd,  
Look'd down from his window on the world—  
'Aha! they are caught in my trap, I see,  
These moon-loving spirits! Henceforth they'll be  
Somewhat less ready to touch, I'm thinking,  
The dew that is meant for my private drinking.  
'Twas a wise thought, that of mine, to pray  
My gossip, the wind, that yesterday  
Set out on a journey round that way,  
To drop from his pillion, as he flew,  
In that acorn-cup, brimful of dew,  
Two great white poppy-seeds, ripe and rare,  
And of wondrous virtue to ensnare  
Poachers and pilferers such as they;  
Aha! there'll be dew enough to-day!"

"And there was dew," light laugh'd the Sun,  
As he drain'd the flower-cups, one by one—  
Meadow-sweet, fox-glove, and mountain-bell,  
Primrose, and cowslip, and pimpernel,  
All of them beaded and brimming o'er;—  
Dew there was, truly, an ample store,  
And the next day, too, and for many more.  
But whether, from that time forth, made wise  
By the cramps, and stitches, and maladies  
That seize the drowsy sleeper, the cunning elves  
Forewent dew-drinking, and bound themselves  
With a 'temperance pledge,' in the usual way—  
I can't inform you—perhaps they may."

Here are some lines on a late spring, headed *Four Twigs for a Birch*:—

"Well, I wonder where the Spring is hiding;  
Just look out and call him;  
He's dropp'd off to sleep, no doubt, a chiding  
Will, I trust, befall him.

"Little Bell's gone peeping, prying, prowling,  
But rough Winter lingers;  
He'll pounce on her, like a Bear, and growling,  
Pinch her toes and fingers.

"Ah! if I were Summer, I'd not pardon  
Lazy Spring's long dozes;  
I'd just take his place, and fill his garden  
With red July roses.

"And when at the door, he cried—sweet lisper,  
'I'm the Spring; d'ye hear, Sir?'  
I'd just tell the hollyhock to whisper,  
'There's no Spring this year, Sir.'"

A playful piece, entitled *Turncoats*, runs thus:—

"Said a little black Tadpole to another,  
That happen'd to be his elder brother,  
'Pray, what strange creature is that I hear  
Croaking so loud?' 'A Frog, my dear,'  
Said the brother, 'and there he sits.' 'I ne'er  
Saw an uglier monster, I declare,'  
Cried little Taddy, wriggling his tail,  
In an offhand fashion, that could not fail  
To show his contempt. 'It's really a pleasure  
And satisfaction, no words can measure,  
To think that we are so smooth and slim,  
So handsome, so . . . very unlike him.'  
'To be sure,' said the brother, bobbing and blinking,  
'To be sure, I'm just of your way of thinking.'  
The air was mild, and the sun was strong,  
The Tadpoles were turned to Frogs ere long;  
The little one croak'd, the big one croak'd.  
At last, said the younger, 'Of course, we . . . joked  
That day, in the ditch; for there's no denying,  
And in fact it's a truth past all replying,  
That whether in mere, or marsh, or bog,  
The handsomest creature, by far, is a frog.'  
'To be sure,' said the brother, bobbing and blinking,  
'To be sure, I'm just of your way of thinking.'"

'Randolph' is a poem by an author who deprecates criticism on the score of youth; but the plea is unnecessary, as the work indicates a robustness that need not fear hard knocks. The sensitiveness to censure is,

however, a good sign in a young writer, as a mark of conscious imperfection, and of the absence of the self-sufficient vanity which is too often the bane of aspiring genius. The story of 'Randolph' is somewhat confusedly narrated, and the metre is needlessly irregular; but there are frequent passages of force and of fervency that promise well for future excellence. The more simplicity of plan and of style the better. We always know what Goldsmith or Byron mean, though we cannot say the same of Shelley or Tennyson. The rhythm of Scott becomes monotonous, but there is never any trouble in following the clear story of 'Marmion,' or the 'Lay of the Last Minstrel,' or any of his poems. This simplicity and clearness let the author of 'Randolph' imitate, if he tries other pieces of similar structure. We quote one or two passages which display variety of thought or facility of versification:—

"Oh! who shall toil, nor be deceived  
That makes his study woman's heart!  
Men have read myths and meaning hid  
On pillar, palace, pyramid,  
Without or guide, or light, or chart;  
Redeemed tongues silent from the grave;  
Resumed the march when History halts;  
And underneath Time's rusting wave  
Traced characters by withered fingers.  
On shattered tower, in crumbling vaults  
Where life has gone, but language lingers.  
But woman shall be never read:  
There, things are writ, no mortal hand  
Or eye shall trace or understand,  
Till death be living, life be dead."

Randolph fights under the eagles of Napoleon, his own hope being for the freedom of Poland:—

"What could he reck for Poland's weal?  
'A step to victory—nothing more!  
They were brave hearts, those Poles, of yore;  
Aye, worth their stirrups and their steel;  
They've changed an empire's hopes before,  
Poor dreamers! well, but let them dream—  
Their dream is Freedom—and it nerves  
The heart, the hand, the lance's gleam,  
That, battle-fevered, never swerves—  
A dream that tempts a smile—but serves!  
This, thou suspectest, Randolph: yet  
Thou wilt go battle in a cause  
That cannot pay off freedom's debt,  
And right and truth deny applause?  
Silence! and blame not, you whose homes  
And hearths are Freedom's chosen shrine.  
Oh! blame not him who turns and roams,  
And cannot, turn him where he may,  
Say of a spot of earth: 'tis mine:  
Though 'twas his fathers', yesterday."

"Oh! blame him not that, times, no more  
Able to suffer or to soar,  
Distract by patience and by pain,  
He seizes haphazard by the hand,  
And for the chance of freedom's gain,  
Does battle in a despot's band,  
Hallows the wrong he ought to spurn,  
Makes liberty's chaste cheek to burn,  
Uses hell's weapons for heav'n's aim,  
And glories in success of shame.

Oh! blame him not, who are not tried,  
You know not what may chance betide  
To freemen, and to freemen's pride."

One other extract we give:—

"But Love is like the alce-tree,  
Which flowers but once throughout a life;  
Its boughs may spread, its branches be  
With leaves, and laughter-ringing life,  
Still shall nor bud, nor blossom burst  
To tell its wild delight, as erst,  
The traitor Autumn tore away  
The faithless flowers from off their spray;  
And the poor trunk in wild despair,  
Cast off the leaves he long had nursed,  
And stood disconsolate and bare,  
To sigh, to shriek, to shudder there,  
All through the winter, stark and cold.  
O, me! the tale is very old!  
Spring came and brought him back his leaves,  
Second creation, but no flow'rs;  
While every tree beside him weaves  
His blossoms, through the scented hours,  
So, Love will have his blossom-time,  
Faith, full-blown Faith is on the bough,  
The rude boy Sorrow fain must climb,  
And—where are the blossoms now?  
Love casts the leaves of ardour off,  
Shakes from him every cherished vow,  
And where he smiled, he stands to scoff,  
Through wintry loneliness, stark and cold,  
O, me! the story is so old!"



The 'Lays of Love and Heroism,' by Eleanor Darby, are of a very miscellaneous kind, the subjects being taken from legends and stories of all times and countries, and ranging from the loftiest heroism to the prettiest sentimentalism. Here is one called the Spanish Bride, founded on a real incident which occurred during the guerilla warfare between the Carlists and Christinos, of which the late Dr. Millingen was an eye-witness, and related it to the author:—

"Sunbeams lighted like a beacon  
The white spire that shone afar  
From a church, a lonely temple  
'Mid the mountains of Navarre:  
And at the nuptial altar  
On two kneeling forms they played—  
On a brave Guerilla chieftain,  
And a high-sou'd Spanish maid.

"The vow was scarcely utter'd,  
Scarcely breath'd the final prayer,—  
Hark! pealing from the cork-wood,  
War's thunder rent the air!  
Then starting up indignant,  
The proudly-beauteous bride,  
With scorn's fire-flashing glances,  
To her trembling bridegroom cried:

"Thou absent from the battle,  
When Glory's smiles invite!  
Oh, shame! the chieftain absent,  
When his men are in the fight!  
And thinkest thou, O recreant,  
Here in Love's arms to stay,  
When honour, dearer honour  
Calls thee to the field away?"

"Thou little know'st Elvira!  
She seiz'd a musket there,  
And o'er it flung the garland  
Of white roses from her hair—  
'Go!—I have crown'd thy musket—  
Make those roses red with gore!  
And bring it wreath'd with laurel—  
Or never see me more!"

The book is inscribed to M. de Lamartine in a dedicatory poem, of which these are the concluding lines:—

"What was the proudest moment of thy life?  
Was it when bay-rites most profusely shower'd?  
No! 'twas when by the surge of faction's strife  
Toss'd, but not shaken; menac'd, not o'erpower'd;  
Baring thy bosom to th' infuriate foe  
Who dared not strike at such a heart, thy voice  
Of god-like eloquence the storm laid low,  
And the mad billows charm'd! O France! rejoice  
In him who said—sublime, immortal thought!  
'No wrong can by our country e'er be wrought!  
She, like our God, gives all, but owes us nought!  
In him, of whom a future age shall tell—  
None, save the man, the poet could excel!"

The noble reply here recorded was made by Lamartine to Victor Dumas, who had remarked that his country had been ungrateful to him. Some of the lyrical and minor pieces appeared originally in our own columns.

*The Collected Works of Dugald Stewart,*  
Esq. Edited by Sir William Hamilton.  
Vol. VI. Constable and Co.

This volume, and the one which is to follow, containing the Philosophy of the Active and Moral Powers of Man, will doubtless be received with much satisfaction by all who take an interest in ethical studies. It was the last publication of the eloquent philosopher, being printed in April, 1828, within two months of his death, which occurred in June of that year; but the substance of the book was the production of his mature and vigorous years, when he contributed his ample share to the fame and usefulness of the University of Edinburgh. There is a grave and affecting solemnity in the explanation given by the aged Emeritus Professor, of the circumstances in which a portion of those lectures were delivered, in 1792 and 1793, when the fierceness of the first French Revolution was at its height; nor is it less pleasing to observe the generous praise he bestows on the 'Library of Useful Knowledge,' then (1827) recently begun, and which should not be forgotten

now, although supplanted by later cheap publications. From Mr. Stewart's Preface we give the following extracts:—

"Before proceeding to my proper subject, I may be permitted to say something in explanation of the large, and perhaps disproportionate space which I have allotted in these volumes to the doctrines of Natural Religion. To account for this I have to observe, that this part of my work contains the substance of Lectures given in the University of Edinburgh, in the year 1792-93, and for almost twenty years afterwards, and that my hearers comprised many individuals, not only from England and the United States of America, but not a few from France, Switzerland, the north of Germany, and other parts of Europe. To those who reflect on the state of the world at that period, and who consider the miscellaneous circumstances and characters of my audience, any farther explanation on this head is, I trust, unnecessary.

"The danger with which I conceived the youth of this country to be threatened, by that inundation of sceptical or rather atheistical publications which were then imported from the Continent, was immensely increased by the enthusiasm which, at the dawn of the French Revolution, was naturally excited in young and generous minds. A supposed connexion between an enlightened zeal for political liberty and the reckless boldness of the uncompromising free-thinker, operated powerfully with the vain and the ignorant in favour of the publications alluded to.

"Another circumstance concurred with those which have been mentioned in prompting me to a more full and systematical illustration of these doctrines than had been attempted by any of my predecessors. Certain divines in Scotland were pleased, soon after this critical era, to discover a disposition to set at nought the evidences of Natural Religion, with a professed, and, I doubt not, in many cases, with a sincere view to strengthen the cause of Christianity. Some of these writers were probably not aware that they were only repeating the language of Bayle, Hume, Helvetius, and many other modern authors of the same description, who have endeavoured to cover their attacks upon those essential principles on which all religion is founded, under a pretended zeal for the interests of Revelation. It was not thus, I recollected, that Cudworth, and Barrow, and Locke, and Clarke, and Butler reasoned on the subject; nor those enlightened writers of a later date, who have consecrated their learning and talents to the farther illustration of the same argument. 'He,' says Locke, who has forcibly and concisely expressed their common sentiments, 'He that takes away Reason to make way for Revelation puts out the light of both, and does much the same as if we would persuade a man to put out his eyes, the better to receive the light of an invisible star by a telescope.'

"This passage from Locke brought to my recollection the memorable words of Melancthon, so remarkably distinguished from most of our other Reformers by the mildness of his temper and the liberality of his opinions: 'Wherefore our decision is this; that those precepts which learned men have committed to writing, transcribing them from the common reason and common feelings of human nature, are to be accounted as not less divine than those contained in the tables given to Moses; and that it could not be the intention of our Maker to supersede, by a law graven upon stone, that which is written with his own finger on the table of the heart.'

"Strongly impressed with these ideas, I published for the use of my students, in November, 1793, a small Manual under the title of 'Outlines of Moral Philosophy,' which I afterwards used as a text-book as long as I continued to give lectures in the University. The second part of this Manual contains the same principles, expressed nearly in the same words with the present publication, in which these principles are much more fully expanded, illustrated, and defended.

"My attention was thus imperatively called to

this part of my course in a greater degree than to any other, by the aspect of the times when I entered upon the duties of my office as Professor of Moral Philosophy. And it gives me heartfelt satisfaction to believe, that, in consequence of the more general diffusion of knowledge among all ranks of people, such discussions are now become much less necessary than they seemed to me to be at that period. In this belief I am confirmed by the eagerness with which the 'Library of Useful Knowledge' has been welcomed by that class of readers for whom it is more peculiarly intended. In the admirable Preliminary Treatise on the Objects, Advantages, and Pleasures of Science, it is said:—'The highest of all our gratifications in the contemplation of science remains: We are raised by it to an understanding of the infinite wisdom and goodness which the Creator has displayed in all his works. Not a step can we take in any direction without perceiving the most extraordinary traces of design; and the skill everywhere conspicuous, is calculated in so vast a proportion of instances to promote the happiness of living creatures, and especially of ourselves, that we can feel no hesitation in concluding, that, if we knew the whole scheme of Providence, every part would be in harmony with a plan of absolute benevolence.' The same tone has been caught, wherever the subject admitted of it, by the authors of the subsequent numbers. It is not often (if ever) that those who do not enjoy the advantages of a liberal education have been thus addressed; and the promptitude with which the labouring classes have availed themselves of this means of instruction is the best proof how congenial its spirit is to their plain good sense and unperverted feelings; and how well-founded is the saying of Cicero, that 'the natural food of our minds is the study and contemplation of Nature.'

What the present editor has done in this, as well as in the former volumes of Mr. Stewart's Collected Works, is worthy of the highest commendation. He has arranged the whole in the most logical and judicious order; he has verified the quotations, and given the most exact references. Mr. Stewart has been exceedingly fortunate in such a redactor; it is only to be regretted by his pupils and admirers that this friendly office has come so late.

*Scutari and its Hospitals.* By the Hon. and Rev. Sydney Godolphin Osborne. Dickinson Brothers.

So many facts have been made public as to the state of the hospitals at Scutari, and Mr. Osborne's own reports on this subject and on the mismanagement of affairs generally by the authorities of the British army are so generally known, that we deem any detailed notice of this work uncalled for. It presents, in a condensed and convenient form, the results of Mr. Osborne's observations and experience during his voluntary mission of benevolence to the East. The plain unvarnished story of what he witnessed in the hospitals of Scutari cannot be read without shame and humiliation, so far as public administration is concerned; while feelings of pride and gratitude are awakened by the knowledge of what has been done by private and unofficial skill and charity. Many thousands of men, Mr. Osborne declares, have lost their lives through the apathy, ignorance, and misconduct of the parties immediately interested with the details of this war. In the British hospitals, as at the camp, the scenes were truly "horrible and heart-rending." This was the more painful to witness, inasmuch as the French hospitals, and the British Naval Hospital, were at the very time in admirable order. These were visited by Mr. Osborne:

"At Therapia, about twelve miles up the Bosphorus, is the Naval Hospital; I paid it a hasty visit; it is small, but as yet quite large enough for its purpose. Nothing could exceed the cleanliness, comfort, and order which appeared to prevail. The naval authorities had taken care to commence preparations here, as early I believe, as April. The patients were as happy as sailors ever are when sick and in bed; one poor fellow was in the act of dying; he was closely watched, and had every kind attention. An officer who had lately had a limb amputated, although he was in much pain and some danger, had every comfort the best hospital in England could have afforded. The ventilation seemed good, and there were ample means of securing warmth. I saw here none of that confusion and resort to temporary expedients which so prevailed at Scutari. I satisfied myself that the relatives of those who are employed in the navy in the East, need be under no apprehension, that in the event of sickness or wounds, they will not be well cared for in every respect. There were plenty of books and newspapers; indeed, I could not find from the medical officer, that there had been any difficulty in obtaining everything desirable for the proper treatment and comfort of the patients. He expressed to me a wish that one or two nurses should be appointed to the establishment, and I have reason to believe this was done within a few days of my visit.

"I learned a fact here quite in keeping with the general misconduct of the authorities at the Camp and Scutari. A transport ship brought down from Balaklava some sick soldiers, with them some marines, who had been serving ashore; these latter were carried with the rest to Scutari, or rather into the Bosphorus; they were not allowed to land, for it was made a matter of question whether they were to be treated as soldiers or sailors! It was said, that after having been kept on board some days, and treated in a manner certainly not easily to be justified, the naval authorities were desired to send for them to Therapia, which place they had passed on their way in the first instance. I will only add with regard to the Naval Hospital, that it was, in its management and general economy, the one English thing I saw properly conducted in the East.

"By the kindness of Mon. Levi I was permitted to inspect the French Military Hospital at Pera. I went there as early as eight o'clock one morning, and found the chief medical officer going the round of the officers' wards. The building itself is of a somewhat similar construction to those at Scutari, but in many respects superior to them. The officers' wards were handsome, lofty rooms; the rest of the building had the usual corridors, of considerable breadth, and opening out of these were wards with the divans on raised platforms so common in these eastern buildings. The French are certainly a most wonderful people—at home anywhere; I found it difficult to believe that the order, quiet, regularity of service and perfect machinery of this Hospital could be the growth of but a few months, and that too in a foreign land. One element was obvious throughout—system. Every one seemed to have his own particular sphere of duty, and quietly to set about it. Nothing seemed left to chance, there was a certain importance given to every the smallest matter of detail."

Details are then given as to the arrangements and management of the French hospitals, well deserving the attention of our authorities, if they will take hints of improvement from any quarter. Passing over the revolting descriptions of the early arrangements of the British hospitals, we give the account of Miss Nightingale and the sisterhood of nurses:—

"Miss Nightingale, in appearance is just what you would expect in any other well-bred woman who may have seen perhaps rather more than thirty years of life; her manner and countenance are prepossessing, and this without the possession of positive beauty; it is a face not easily forgotten, pleasing in its smile, with an eye betokening great

self-possession, and giving, when she wishes, a quiet look of firm determination to every feature. Her general demeanour is quiet and rather reserved; still, I am much mistaken, if she is not gifted with a very lively sense of the ridiculous. In conversation, she speaks on matters of business with a grave earnestness one would not expect from her appearance. She has evidently a mind disciplined to restrain, under the principles of the action of the moment, every feeling which would interfere with it. She has trained herself to command, and learned the value of conciliation towards others and constraint over herself. I can conceive her to be a strict disciplinarian; she throws herself into a work—as its head—as such she knows well how much success must depend upon literal obedience to her every order. She seems to understand business thoroughly, though to me she had the failure common to many 'heads,' a too great love of management in the small details which had better perhaps have been left to others. Her nerve is wonderful; I have been with her at very severe operations; she was more than equal to the trial. She has an utter disregard of contagion; I have known her spend hours over men dying of cholera or fever. The more awful, to every sense, any particular case, especially if it was that of a dying man, her slight form would be seen bending over him, administering to his ease in every way in her power, and seldom quitting his side till death released him.

"I have heard and read with indignation the remarks hazarded upon her religious character. I found her myself to be in every word and action a Christian; I thought this quite enough. It would have been, in my opinion, the most cruel impertinence to scrutinize her words and acts, to discover to which of the many bodies of true Christians she belonged. I have conversed with her several times on the deaths of those who I had visited ministerially in the hospitals, with whom she had been when they died. I never heard one word from her lips, that would not have been just what I should have expected from the lips of those who I have known to be the most experienced and devout of our common faith. Her work ought to answer for her faith; at least none should dare to call that faith in question, in opposition to such work, on grounds so weak and trivial as those I have seen urged. That she has been equally kind and attentive to men of every creed—that she would smooth the pillow and give water to a dying fellow creature who might own no creed, I have no doubt. All honour to her that she does feel that her's is the Samaritan's—not the Pharisee's work. If there is blame in looking for a Roman Catholic priest to attend a dying Romanist, let me share it with her—I did it again and again.

"In my own opinion it would be most advisable that the hired professional nurses should wear some dress distinguishing them from the sisters. There are many offences, about the sick and wounded, which the surgeons would at once require, and with reason, of a hired hospital nurse, which nothing could induce them to ask of a 'sister.' I am also quite satisfied this is no field of usefulness proper for young English women. We are very apt to confound the duties and the office of these volunteer ladies, with those of the sisters of charity in the French hospitals. From what I saw and could learn at those hospitals, the several positions in life of the respective parties, their training, the obligation of the religious vow, &c., make a very wide distinction between them.

"England and the English army will ever owe a deep debt of gratitude to the ladies who have devoted themselves to this first attempt to introduce the zeal and tender care of well-bred women into the economy of a military hospital. When the war is over, and they return to us, from their experience may be gained the valuable information, how far all the work they had to do in this crisis was work that in the sober moment of calm consideration at home they would recommend as a field for the charitable exertion of English ladies. I have little doubt but the majority would agree

with me, that very much of it had been better left, had it been possible, to trained paid nurses; and that there would have still remained a large field of more fitting usefulness for the zeal of unpaid volunteers.

"I must not pass over my friends, Mr. and Mrs. Bracebridge; the latter ever watchful over her charge, Miss Nightingale, was most useful to her; indeed, without such a motherly friend, I cannot see how she could have got through many of the trials of her position. Mr. Bracebridge was active everywhere, and from his acquaintance with the East, his persevering good humoured attempts to help everybody about everything, was of infinite service. Hitherto God has been most merciful in supporting the sisters and nurses in their work of true Christian love. It is impossible to magnify the amount of labour they undertake. They will have their reward at that day, when the Great Preacher to the quick and dead, shall practically prove the weight and truth of the text—'I was sick and ye visited me.'

The concluding paragraphs of Mr. Osborne's work are written in somewhat more hopeful strain than the general narrative:—

"Since I began these pages, I am happy to say there have been better accounts from the East. At home and at the Camp, the authorities have been roused to some sense of their real duties. The amount of deaths from exposure are on the decrease; there is something like a vigorous attempt to establish order in the hospitals; the aid of civil surgeons has been called in; energetic efforts are made to send the right things to the right places.

"The nation has had a lesson; by the working of God's providence we have had our proud boasting rebuked; we have been compelled to learn that war is not a matter in which we can rashly engage. I hope its cost in 'means' in 'life' and in the humiliation it has brought upon us, may in the end work for our national good; as yet, in my poor opinion, we have shown ourselves 'chastised but not corrected.'

The work is illustrated with coloured engravings, among which is a view of the burial ground at Scutari, a spot which is now mournfully associated with the thoughts and affections of many English homes. Whatever influence Mr. Osborne's representations may have in hastening reform of the public service, the report of his observations and proceedings at Scutari will be read with interest and gratitude by those who have relatives and friends in the East.

#### NOTICES.

*America and the Americans.* By W. E. Baxter, Esq., M.P. Routledge and Co.

THIS is one of the best books that has lately appeared on America and the Americans. It is written by W. E. Baxter, Esq., M.P., the successor of Joseph Hume in the representation of the Montrose boroughs. Mr. Baxter has twice visited the United States, and has seen other parts of Northern America. On returning from his last tour, the substance of the present work was delivered at Dundee in the form of lectures, and few alterations, beyond verbal revisions, were made before publication. It is, therefore, not a book in which we are to look for statistical details and minute descriptions, but it gives brief and comprehensive sketches of the writer's observations and researches as to the physical features and resources of the country, the cities, agriculture, modes of locomotion, manufactures, commerce, education, literature, politics, religion, slavery, and the manners and social condition of the people. On these and many miscellaneous topics, are recorded the impressions of an intelligent, judicious, and liberal Scottish traveller. The notes are for popular use, and they will be found both instructive and entertaining. To the subject of education Mr. Baxter gave particular attention, and it will be remembered that he made a favourable impression in the House

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of Commons by his maiden speech this session in the debate on the Lord Advocate's Scottish Education Bill. The chapters on the Common Schools System of America, on Romanism in the States, on the Maine Liquor Law, and on Newspapers, contain matter directly bearing on questions of deep interest connected with improvements and changes in British legislation and usages. It is a book that deserves to be widely read.

*The Works of Virgil, closely rendered into English Rhythm, and Illustrated from British Poets of the 16th, 17th, and 18th Centuries.* By the Rev. Robert Corbet Singleton, M.A. Bell and Daldy.

*The Georgics of Virgil.* Literally and Rhythmically Translated. By W. Sewell, B.D. Second Edition. J. H. Parker.

Or 'Virgil,' in whole or in part, there is now an abundance of translations, free and literal, prose and verse. Mr. Singleton thinks there is room for another version, having the following characteristics: 1, Rigid accuracy; 2, Poetical expression; 3, Adherence to the Latin order; 4, Rhythmical arrangement; 5, Choice of Anglo-Saxon words. In most of these points the author has succeeded, though we can speak with very qualified praise of the poetical merit of the work. The opening lines of the First Eclogue sufficiently show the style:—

"Thou, Tityrus, lo! 'neath the canopy  
Of a wide-spreading beech, thy woodland muse  
Art practising upon the slender straw:  
We're leaving our patrimony's bounds  
And charming tilths; we our native land  
Are flying: thou, O Tityrus, at ease  
Within the shade, art lessening the woods  
To echo back the lovely Amaryllis."

Mr. Singleton's idea of poetry is too much that of average university men, by whom the diction of college verses is considered poetical, when as widely different as possible from the language of common prose. We give one passage, as rendered by Mr. Singleton and by Mr. Sewell, the comparison of which will, without referring to the original, show how literal the versions are. It is the episode of the Corycian old man, beginning thus:—

"For I do call to mind that I beneath  
The stately towers of Ebalia,  
Where dun Galesus dews the golden tilths,  
An aged man of Corycus (once) saw,  
To whom a few acres of abandoned ground  
Belonged; nor fruitful was that land through steers,  
Nor fit for cattle, nor for Bacchus meet.  
Yet even here [some] scattered kitchen-herbs  
Among the brakes and snowy lilies round,  
And vernal planting, fine-grained poppy too,  
The wealth of sovereigns in mind he matched;  
And, late at night returning to his home,  
Cumbered his tables with unpurchased cates.  
The first was he in spring to cull the rose,  
And in the autumn fruits; and when e'en still  
Drear winter with its cold would brast the rocks,  
And with its ice the race of waters rein,  
Already he soft hyacinthus' locks  
Was clipping, jeering the late summer-tide,  
And lagging Zephyrs."

Mr. Sewell, in his translation, revised and re-written for a second edition, thus render the passage:—

"— For 'neath Ebalia's lofty towers,  
Where black Galesus dews the golden tilths,  
I mind me to have seen an aged swain  
Of Corycus, to whom some acres few  
Belong'd of ground abandon'd; neither rich  
For oxen it, nor farm for cattle apt,  
Nor meet for Bacchus. Yet in copses here  
Thin posheries treading in, and lilies white,  
And vernal plants, and poppy tiny-grain'd,  
The wealth of monarchs in his heart he match'd;  
And 'neath the late night returning home  
Would with unpurchase'd banquets load his board.  
He was the first the rose in Spring to cull,  
And apples in the Autumn; and e'en now  
When Winter sad was splitting rocks with frost,  
And curbing river-currents with its ice,  
He even then the soft acanthus' leaf  
Was cutting; chiding oft the Summer late,  
And lagging Zephyrs."

The resemblance in the two versions being obvious, even in verbal details, it is right to give Mr. Singleton's remark in his preface: "Though I did not consult this production of Mr. Sewell's pen until after my own version of that part of 'Virgil' had been completed, yet in my last revise for the press, I feel that in my alterations, which were very numerous, an unconscious memory may, in a few places, have drawn from this very worthy source."

He adds, that "Mr. Sewell's version of the Georgics combines more of poetic spirit with, almost universally, the strictest accuracy than I have ever seen in any other translation of any author." For the scholastic uses designed by Mr. Singleton, his translation is well adapted. Masters and tutors will find it useful for reference, and as a groundwork for their comments and prelections. To the general reader the most acceptable part of the book will be found in the illustrative extracts of the English poets. There are, in the first volume, about ninety quotations from Shakspeare, and above a hundred from Spenser, and many others, from Chaucer down to Thomson.

*Our World; or, the Democrat's Rule.* By Justia, a Know Nothing. Low, Son, and Co.

The perusal of this work by those who have patience to toil through it, may afford some new insight into American life, social and political; but the number of English readers likely to be profited or entertained by such a study is not great. The work is not suited to English tastes and ideas; and although it is well to have some general notion of the politics of the States, we have little leisure to enter into the details of feeling and action here described and illustrated. In America there may be well-marked shades of democracy, but to average Englishmen they are all republicans, the only distinctions being broad divisions arising out of such questions as slavery, popery, universal suffrage, and foreign immigration as opposed to native American influence. The Know Nothings seem organized for checking these last three influences, being so far a Protestant, Conservative, and American movement. Of the need of some such reaction from democracy, the pictures of American life in this work give sufficient proof. Had it been better written, it might have commanded much attention in England. But the story is tedious, and even the style is careless and incorrect—as when we read of "great men being often greatest of crime," and of one "trembling of fright," and in one sentence, which has the prominence of being appended to one of the rough pictorial illustrations of the book, we are told that the "scene was vivid of happiness." This is not "Queen's English."

#### SUMMARY.

A PAMPHLET on *Railways in India* (W. H. Allen), gives an account of their state and prospects, considered with reference to the field they present for English capital, with observations upon the terms of the guarantee granted to the railway companies by the Hon. East India Company. There is an illustrative map, showing the lines proposed and those decided upon. The prospects of the railways of India, from the slight experiment between Calcutta and Ranegunj, are of the most encouraging kind. It was always feared that the system of caste would present insuperable obstacles to the promiscuous travelling of railway cars, and that the poverty of the lowest classes would prevent their using this mode of transit. "To our inconceivable surprise," writes the 'Friend of India,' Dec. 21, 1854, "We have already at the rate of 350,000 passengers a year from the middling and the lower classes of society availing themselves of the rail. Of the returns of the four weeks, ending the 2nd Dec., amounting to 16,731 rupees, or 1673l.; the contribution from the third class was 9320 rupees, or 932l." This is the experience of a line only forty miles in length, extending from Calcutta to no place of any note. It is expected that when other lines are open, the passenger traffic will be immense, while the calculated amount of revenue from goods will alone bring ample revenue upon the capital laid out. Lord Dalhousie's testimony is that "the commercial success of railways in India, which the experimental lines were partly intended to test, is in my humble judgment, not less certain than the practicability of them as material constructions." Among many miscellaneous facts stated in the pamphlet, we find a note that the expense at present of a journey from Calcutta to Benares by road, 428 miles, is 25l. each person, occupying five days on the journey. By railway the journey will

be performed in thirty hours, and will cost, third class, 25s.; second, 2l. 15s.; first, about 6l. or 7l." The works are executed by companies, with guaranteed dividends from Government, and conditions of the Government obtaining possession of the lines after a certain period, if choosing to claim them, the capital advanced by shareholders being in that case repaid to them.

A third edition, revised and enlarged, is published of *Professor Balfour's Manual of Botany* (Griffin and Co.), being an introduction to the study of the structure, physiology, and classification of plants. This edition is issued under the superintendence of Joseph Williams, M.D., Lecturer on Botany in the Dublin School of Medicine. It will be remembered that there was some difference between the author and publishers of this work, and another work by Professor Balfour is also in circulation. The proprietors of the original copyright have used every exertion to make the manual as complete as possible, and to keep it up to the most advanced state of the sciences. This volume forms part of the cabinet edition of the 'Encyclopædia Metropolitana.'

Of *Gregorovius' Wanderings in Corsica*, an American edition appears (Trübner and Co.), the translation being by Edward Ivy Norris, lately the United States charge d'affaires at Naples. We have already two English editions, with either of which this of Mr. Norris will not suffer by comparison as a translation, while it is in the form of a convenient and well-printed volume.

In Bohn's Standard Library (H. G. Bohn), volume second of Professor Smyth's *Lectures on Modern History* completes the reprint of this standard work. In the reprint of *Defoe's Works*, in the British Classics, a volume of the novels and miscellaneous works contains *Roxana*, or the Unfortunate Mistress, and the *Life and Adventures of Mother Ross*. Apart from the entertainment derived from all Defoe's novels, they are full of interesting illustrations of the history, and the life and manners of the times to which they relate. Many such passages occur in the tales of the present volume, which would furnish good materials for chapters such as Macaulay and Lord Mahon have written on the social life and internal history of England in former times.

An American tale, *The Lost Heiress*, by Mrs. Southworth, is published in the cheap series of volumes by Messrs. Ward and Lock. It is a striking story, and the style is more terse and vigorous than is usual with female novel writers.

Prepared as a reading-book for the use of schools, by John Jones, Master of the Countess of Harwood's School, near Leeds, is the *Liturgical Class-Book*, a series of lessons on the Book of Common Prayer (Longman and Co), explaining the history and meaning of the different parts of the Anglican Church service.

The first number is issued of a new periodical, *The Quarterly Journal of Public Health*, a record of epidemics and hygiene, including the Transactions of the Epidemiological Society of London, edited by W. Richardson, M.D. (Highley). The first number contains papers on a variety of subjects of importance in connexion with public sanitary affairs, as well as instructive to medical practitioners. It is a periodical in the success of which the general public cannot but feel a warm interest, as bearing on subjects of common welfare.

A paper on the *Ethnological Exhibitions of London*, by John Conolly, M.D. (Churchill), is published at the request of the Ethnological Society, at a meeting of which it was read. Notices are given of some of the remarkable specimens of races recently exhibited in London. It is an extremely interesting paper, and the author's notes and comments are marked by sound judgment and right feeling when referring to the exhibitions, on other than ethnological grounds.

The substance of *Lord Lyndhurst's Speech on the Position and Policy of Prussia*, delivered in the House of Lords March 20, 1855, is published in the form of a pamphlet (Smith and Elder), with Lord Clarendon's Reply subjoined.

In *A Plea for Painted Glass*, by Francis W.

Olipphant (J. H. Parker), there is an able statement and discussion of the nature, character, and objects of this art, with appeals and suggestions for its extension and improvement.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Abbott's *Linear Perspective*, 8vo, cloth, reduced, 3s. 6d.  
 Angus (Rev. J.) *Christ our Life*, crown 8vo, cl., 2nd ed., 5s.  
 Annals of England, Vol. 1, 16mo, cloth, 5s.  
 Arnold's (T. K.) *Latin Word Building*, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.  
 Bacon's *Novum Organum*, 8vo, quires, 9s.  
 Besley's (H.) *Pocket Formulary*, 18mo, cloth, 6th ed., 6s.  
 Beren's (Rev. E.) *History of the Common Prayer*, new ed., 3s.  
 Bonnet's *Family of Bethany*, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 13th ed., 5s.  
 Brougham's *Works*, Vol. 2, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Cornish on *Purchase of Deeds*, &c., 8vo, boards, 10s.  
 Cottage *Dialogues on the Four Gospels*, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
 Drew's (J.) *Practical Meteorology*, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
 Dwarrie's (Sir F.) *Widow's Rescue*, 12mo, cloth, 5s.  
 Everett's (Rev. R.) *Four through the United States*, 8vo, 5s.  
 Goodwin's (Rev. H.) *Parish Sermons*, 2nd ed., 12mo, cl., 6s.  
 Heath's (D. J.) *Erosius Papiri*, 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Hind's (J.) *Arithmetic*, 7th ed., 12mo, boards, 4s. 6d.  
 Johnson (G.) on *Epidemic Diarrhoea*, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
 Jones's (J.) *Liturgical Class Book*, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.  
 (W.) *Ophthalmic Medicine*, &c., 2nd ed., fcap., 12s. 6d.  
 Krummacher's (F. W.) *Christ and His People*, 12mo, cl., 5s.  
 Lawrence (R. M.) on *Gout*, &c., 12mo, sewed, 2s. 6d.  
 Lectures to *Young Men*, 1864-5, 12mo, cloth, 4s.  
 Library of *Biblical Literature*, Vol. 2, 12mo, cloth, 2s.  
 Maine's (B. C.) *Who is God in China?* 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
 Morgan's (Lady) *Woman and Her Master*, 2 vols., p. 8vo, 7s.  
 My Brother's *Keeper*, crown 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Neate's (C.) *Essay on Fingering*, 4to, cloth, 15s.  
 Parke's (B. R.) *Poems*, 2nd edition, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Pictures of *Christian Heroism*, 12mo, boards, 2s. 6d., cloth, 3s.  
 Potter's *Mechanics*, 8vo, cloth, 3rd edition, 5s. 6d.  
 Prideaux's *Churchwarden's Guide*, 12mo boards, 7th ed., 6s.  
 Ragg's (T.) *Creation*, 12mo, cloth, 6s.  
 Saravia on the *Eucharist*, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
 Smith's (J. W.) *Law of Landlord and Tenant*, 8vo, cloth, 14s.  
 Whish's (J. C.) *The First Cause*, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.  
 Williams' *Sermons on the Epistles and Gospels*, &c., 5s. 6d.  
 Witch (The) of *Milton Hall*, 12mo, boards, 2s.

## SIR HENRY T. DE LA BECHE, C.B., F.R.S.

By the death of the Director-General of the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom, at the age of fifty-nine, the world of science has lost a vigorous and congenial member, and the country a really practical and useful public servant. Sir Henry De la Beche had been debilitated by paralysis for some time past, but he attended to his official duties to the last; and by his actual removal from among us, we are brought to a mournful sense of his genius, and of the value of his services in the particular advancement of geological science with reference to arts and manufactures. Sir Henry De la Beche has been the founder of an entirely new school of geological and mining knowledge; and, under wise direction, the fruits will be of no small importance to the well-being and scientific character of the nation.

Henry Thomas De la Beche, descended from the Barons De la Beche of Aldworth, Berks, in the time of Edward III., was born in London in 1796; and having received the elements of his education at the school of Ottery, Saint Mary, entered in 1810 the Royal Military College of Great Marlow, subsequently removed to Sandhurst. On leaving Sandhurst he entered the army, but shortly retired from the service; and having settled with his family in Dorsetshire, a locality rich in minerals and fossil remains, he imbibed a taste for that sublime science which gave an impulse to his pursuits in after-life. At the age of twenty-one Sir Henry De la Beche was elected a Member of the Geological Society, which, as related in our memoir last week of its first President, had been in existence about ten years; and his geological labours were divided, for the next few years, between the Continent and the counties of Dorset, Devon, and Pembroke. In 1820, after visiting Switzerland and Italy, he published a paper in the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, 'On the Temperature and Depth of the Lake of Geneva'; and, in the following year, his first geological paper, assisted by Dean Conybeare, 'On the Discovery in the Bristol Lias of a new Fossil Species of the Ichthyosaurus Family,' which they distinguished by the name of *Plesiosaurus*. These were followed at intervals by papers 'On the Geology of Southern

Pembrokeshire,' 'On the Lias of the Coast in the Vicinity of Lyme Regis,' and, 'On the Chalk and Greensand,' in the same locality. Sir Henry De la Beche inherited about this time a considerable family estate in the West Indies, and being induced to visit it, he returned in 1825 with a paper 'On the Geology of Jamaica,' while various other communications from his pen appeared in the *Transactions of the Geological Society*, the *Philosophic Magazine*, the *Annals of Philosophy*, and other scientific journals. His first distinct volume appears to have been a translation, with notes, of a Selection of Geological Memoirs from the 'Annales des Mines' of Paris.

We now come to that period in the life of Sir Henry De la Beche which has earned for him a national and lasting fame. The officers of the Ordnance Trigonometrical Survey were working on the coast of Cornwall, and it occurred to Sir Henry that it would be of commercial importance to the country to possess some official register of its geology. For several years he worked with the Ordnance officers, entirely at his own private expense, in laying down the geological features of the county on the Ordnance trigonometrical maps; and since that period his splendid and original views of national geological survey, have come to be developed in the establishment of three objects—a public Geological Museum worthy of a nation so immediately depending on its mineral treasures; a School of Mines, in which not only students connected with mines, but the working classes generally, should be instructed; and an office of Mining Records, to preserve from oblivion such data connected with mining operations as may be of future use. All these he accomplished, and for several years has had the happiness to see them carried out by a band of most able and willing coadjutors, acting with unvarying harmony, and untiring zeal, under the friendly guidance of their esteemed and honoured chief.

Of these institutions Sir Henry De la Beche was the chief, and in a great measure the sole founder, inasmuch as it was by his own personal efforts and unwearied energy, that he commenced the arrangements which, from very small beginnings and very moderate requirements, have expanded into institutions of great magnitude and importance. They are by no means so generally known as they ought to be; mere notoriety formed no part of Sir Henry's plan, and he aimed at solid success more than public praise, being always mindful of the danger attending any premature claims of so novel an establishment,—the infancy and progress of which he continually watched with a solicitude truly parental. Soon after entering on the field duties of the Ordnance Geological Survey, Sir Henry formed an extensive collection of rocks and fossils, and represented to Mr. Spring Rice (now Lord Monteagle), Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to Mr. Baring at the Treasury, the use and value of such specimens, if preserved for future reference, as well as public inspection. By the friendly aid of Lord Duncannon, first Commissioner of Woods and Forests, two or three vacant rooms in a house in Craig's-court, Charing-cross, were then placed at his disposal, for the better display of the specimens. Mr. Milne, the secretary of the board, warmly appreciated and encouraged so useful a plan, and Sir Robert Peel, through the friendly intercession of Dr. Buckland, was greatly interested in the scheme; and when it became apparent that a much larger space could be worthily filled, first the whole house and afterwards an adjoining house were appropriated to this rudimentary museum. It was found that by a very moderate expenditure, a collection of great value might eventually be formed, as many eminent geologists, noblemen, and other landed proprietors, expressed a willingness to contribute specimens if suitable arrangements could be made for exhibiting them. The plan laid down deserves especial notice, for its eminently practical and useful character. It was, to collect all useful mineral productions, to show instructive examples of their several varieties, and of the materials associated with them; to explain, by means of models, the relative position of the minerals and of stratified

or other rocks, the methods of extracting them, and the various processes of cleansing them from all impurities, so as to be of marketable value, or fitted for further industrial processes. To these were to be added examples of the various stages of manufacture, and of the finished productions. The carrying out of this clear and comprehensive plan was managed by Sir Henry De la Beche with consummate skill, and year after year saw the gradual expansion of his design so clearly developed, that he obtained increasing support from government, and was further encouraged by the approval and aid of several distinguished friends of science, and especially by H. R. H. Prince Albert, Lord Lincoln (now Duke of Newcastle), the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Morpeth (now Earl of Carlisle), &c. A chemical laboratory was added, under the direction of Mr. Richard Phillips, and subsequently of Dr. Percy. Mr. T. B. Jordan was appointed Curator, and his inventive genius and mechanical skill imparted much interest to the Museum, which, for several years was open to public inspection, in Craig's-court, Charing-cross.

In 1838, at the Newcastle Meeting of the British Association, Sir Henry managed to get a Committee nominated to urge upon Government the importance of preserving accurate records of mining operations. A grant of 200l. was obtained, and eventually an arrangement was made by which the care of such records was committed to Mr. Jordan, under the superintendence of Sir Henry De la Beche. In the new Museum in Jermyn-street, a suitable Office of Mining Records forms one of the principal objects of the establishment; and under the able management of Mr. Robert Hunt, and the untiring efforts of Sir Henry, the results have been such as to obtain the immediate sanction of the Prince Consort and the department of the Board of Trade; and the views of the original promoters have been carried out on a scale of great efficiency.

In 1839 the Museum received a rich accession, in the specimens of building-stones collected by the Parliamentary Commissioners (of whom Sir Henry was one) for examining the most suitable materials for building the new Houses of Parliament.

In due time the plans of Sir Henry received a full development, by the erection, at a cost of upwards of 30,000l., of the Museum of Practical Geology, in Jermyn-street. It comprises a very extensive geological museum, a lecture-room, laboratories and school of mines, and the office of mining records. As a public institution, it presents by far the most important example ever shown by the English Government to promote popular scientific education, and one feature of it is strikingly indicative of the practical and benevolent intentions of the founder: this is the series of lectures occasionally given to the working classes by the willing and gratuitous aid of the accomplished staff of professors who attend to the several departments. These are given at stated times, on Monday evenings, to about five hundred workmen (such being the limit of accommodation in the lecture-room). The admission-fee was fixed by Sir Henry at sixpence for a course of six lectures, or one penny each night; and it is gratifying to state that the respectability of the parties, their close attention and creditable interest in the subjects explained to them, have been such as amply to reward the exertions made, and this example appears to present a very strong inducement for Government to extend still further (as Sir Henry would doubtless have endeavoured to do if his valuable life had been prolonged) the means of public instruction by competent teachers.

Sir Henry De la Beche's military studies in early life enabled him to concentrate his attention, to arrange his ideas in methodical order, and to apply in the several departments of duty entrusted to him, a rigid discipline which proved of essential service when he undertook the direction of the Ordnance Geological Survey. The zeal and ability with which he executed this service would also have secured for him a lasting and most honourable reputation; but that which to many would have been an ample field of duty, and satisfied the highest geological ambition, served in the case of Sir



De la Beche only as the foundation of further and greater efforts. He possessed a large amount of general knowledge, he excelled in accurate observation, and he wrote with facility and clearness. In addition to these valuable qualities, he possessed the power of rapid delineation, whether of scientific diagrams, landscape scenery, or characteristic sketches of humour bearing on his favourite study of geology or on social habits; the playful sunshine of humour in the latter rightly indicated the habitual cheerfulness of his disposition, and this again imparted a richness and force to his verbal descriptions. He had a happy facility in availing himself of circumstances as they arose; a tact in taking things at the right time and knowing the best manner of managing the various official difficulties which beset his path, and which truly at times were both numerous and perplexing. The union of these several qualities enabled him, by gradual and consistent efforts, to accomplish results of a magnitude and importance which, under less favourable combinations, could not have been attained; and this is worthy of especial note at a time when attention is so much directed to the qualities required in public men for the energetic management of the business of the State.

In addition to the works already mentioned as examples of the fruits of Sir Henry De la Beche's early career, we find that in 1829 he published in octavo, a 'Notice on the Excavation of Valleys,' 'Sketch of a Classification of European Rocks,' and 'Geological Notes'; and in quarto, a valuable series of 'Sections and Views Illustrative of Geological Phenomena,' of which only 200 copies were struck off, and it has been long out of print. These plates, forty in number, with seventy-one pages of explanations, form a most instructive atlas of sections of strata and outlines of mountain scenery.

In 1830 Sir Henry brought out a small 'Geological Manual,' which had a rapid sale, and has been translated in several languages. A second edition of it appeared in 1832, and a third in 1833. In 1834 he produced a little volume with the title of 'Researches in Theoretical Geology,' and in the following year his well-known 'How to Observe in Geology,' which, in the course of fifteen years, grew into the ponderous volume of 850 pages, called 'The Geological Observer,' and of which a second edition appeared the year before last.

In 1831 Sir Henry De la Beche filled the office of Secretary to the Geological Society, and from 1835 to 1846 he was its Foreign Secretary. In 1847 and 1848 he filled the office of President, and at the very last anniversary of the Society in February, he had the distinguished honour to receive the Wollaston Palladium Medal. "The noble building in Jernyn-street," said Sir Roderick Murchison, when returning thanks on that occasion for his inviolable friend, "constructed in a great measure from the designs of the Director himself, stands forth, to the imperishable credit of the author, as the first palace ever raised from the ground in Britain which is entirely devoted to the advancement of science; and considering the vast importance of the cultivation of geology, and the arts of mining and metallurgy in countries so rich in mineral products as Great Britain, her colonies and dependencies, we should use our best endeavours to have this noble and useful institution maintained by the British Government in that high position to which it has been raised." Sir Henry De la Beche was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1819, and he was also a Fellow of the Linnean Society. In 1851 he took a prominent part in the management of the geological department of the Great Exhibition, and delivered the official lecture in Class I. on Mining, Quarrying, and Metallurgy. In 1853 he was elected, by forty-seven votes, a Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of Paris; he was presented also about this time with the Order of Leopold of Belgium; and the King of Denmark created him a Knight of the Danish Order of Dannebrog. In 1848 the Order of Knighthood was conferred upon him by his own sovereign, in recognition of his valued and long-continued scientific services. For personal distinction Sir Henry cared little, but it

possessed what he would have termed an economic value, as a passport to hospitalities in remote districts where his scientific honours and public office as Director of the Museum were unknown. Many of the warm-hearted and courteous country squires of Wales willingly afforded ample range over their geological and mountainous domains to an accredited knight; and once introduced, no one could better reward civilities which might have been less willingly rendered to an untitled guest.

The latest field of Sir Henry's scientific labours was the Isle of Wight. He was disabled by paralysis from actual work, but his mind was clear and bright, and his energies as vigorous as ever. In Alum Bay, the autumn before last, might have been seen the Director of the Geological Survey trotting about the beach on a short stiff pony, in animated conversation with another lost spirit, the paleontological member of his staff, Edward Forbes, who was busy, hammer in hand, pounding the rocks to get at their organic remains. Sir Henry De la Beche was buried on Thursday at the cemetery of Kensal Green.

#### GREENOUGH AND DE LA BECHE.

To the Editor of the 'Literary Gazette.'

THE decease of these two eminent geologists having led me to address my valued friend, the Dean of Llandaff (W. Conybeare), on the heavy loss our science had sustained, I have received a reply, from which I extract a few passages, whilst I omit, for personal reasons, certain paragraphs laudatory of those who are endeavouring to fill up the ranks in that body which I had called 'La Vieille Garde' of the Geological Forces:—

"Now within six weeks of the close of my three score and eighth year," writes Dean Conybeare, "I must expect to see the allies and associates of the pursuits of my own more vigorous years of life gathered. One of them (Greenough) was my first instructor and guide in our common line, the other (De la Beche), a most efficient companion and collaborator during my long residence in the most interesting field of Somerset, and the successful completer of all I had imperfectly sketched in the geology of Glamorgan. Perhaps I most deeply feel (as I ought) for my old leader. He was truly the first President of the Geological Society of London, in the widest possible sense of the expression, at the very earliest influx of geological science into England, and he was in every way qualified to take the lead. His long residence on the Continent, his general literary acquaintance with all, and his personal intimacy with many of the principal scientific men, made him the channel of connexion between our insulated folks and our Germanic and French allies; and this alone was one of the points most important at our first start. Then, his sagacity in detecting, and industry in collecting, all the scattered information that bore upon the physical geography, not of England alone, but of the globe, was in itself truly admirable. His geological map of England is a public record of his work for our country, and his very recent map of Hindostan attests equally his minute and detailed information respecting the most distant localities.

"Of my later friend and associate, De la Beche, I must speak more shortly; though to his active aid I owed as much in my Saurian researches as I owed to Greenough when I wrote the 'Geology of England and Wales.' The Museum of Practical Geology will truly remain the great memorial of his importance in our field, and one which will make his value more and more appreciated every year."

The loss of Greenough, advanced as he was in years, was wholly unexpected; for shortly only before his death at Naples, he wrote to me a letter full of animation and bright intellect, and expressive of his hope to meet me soon; whilst the departure of the much younger man, my schoolfellow De la Beche, was daily and mournfully anticipated by many friends, who, like myself, watched with anxiety the progress of his fatal disease.

No words of mine are required to raise either

of these remarkable persons in the estimation of their associates; for I know that their loss is sincerely felt by all those who were intimately acquainted with them. But let me impress on the minds of the general public the deep respect in which we of the same calling as the deceased hold the memory of the two men, the elder of whom was the first President of the Geological Society of London, the younger the founder of the first great national establishment ever raised in the British Isles for the advancement of Natural History Science, and especially for the diffusion of sound geological and mining knowledge.

May the arrangement and classification in that admirable establishment, as completed by De la Beche and the truly eminent Edward Forbes, be ever vigorously sustained by those who may be appointed to succeed them. Such a proof of our estimation of their labours will be the best testimonial we can offer to their memory.

Your obedient very servant,

RODERICK I. MURCHISON.

Belgrave-square, April 16, 1855.

#### MR. BELL'S EDITION OF THOMSON'S SEASONS.

To the Editor of the 'Literary Gazette.'

SIR,—Your observations on my note do not touch the real question, which is whether the "monstrous line," which you "never saw before in any edition, early or late," is genuine, or, as you suggested, was fabricated for the Annotated Edition of the "Seasons." Having raised this question, you are bound in justice to investigate it. I have furnished you with the means by referring you to the source from whence the line is derived, upon which ample information is given in the volume itself. You say, you "do not now doubt that this line exists in the copy from which Mr. Bell has taken his text;" of course there can be no reasonable doubt about that. But the substantive question still remains,—Is the text I have adopted the perfect and correct text of Thomson, or is the perfect and correct text to be found amongst the three editions to which you appeal? My statement is clear, and admits of no evasion. It is simply, that not one of the three editions you quote possess the slightest authority. They are notoriously inaccurate and defective.

You have undoubtedly proved that the line is not repeated in every edition published since 1746; but I did not think my assertion, which was obviously intended to refer only to those editions that are admitted to possess any literary value, could have been misunderstood; otherwise it must be supposed to have included innumerable editions, which are well known to abound in errors and mutilations. In none of these editions will you find the line, nor even in the collections of Chalmers, Anderson, or Bell, all of which are equally incorrect and imperfect; but you will find it in the accurate editions published by Mr. Bolton Corney in 1842, by Sir Harris Nicolas in 1847, and by Dr. A. T. Thomson, also in 1847.—I have the honour to be, sir, your very obedient servant,

ROBERT BELL.

19th April, 1855.

\* \* What does Mr. Bell mean by saying in such flippant terms that his statement is clear, and admits of no evasion? The statement which we undertook to disprove was that the line—

"With a fine bluish mist of animals"

—is repeated in every edition of the 'Seasons' published since 1746." We have shown, apparently to Mr. Bell's annoyance, that it is omitted in an edition published in 1762 by the poet's own friend, Patrick Murdoch, an authentic and good edition, containing an account of the author's Life and Writings; in a carefully collated edition, printed in 1805 by Whittingham; and in a neat edition, with Johnson's Life prefixed, published in 1824 by Oliver and Boyd; and we learn now from Mr. Bell that the line is omitted also in the collections of Chalmers, Anderson, and Bell. This is a disproof of Mr. Bell's assertion, which should certainly admit of no evasion; but Mr. Bell hopes to justify

himself by stating that his assertion only referred to editions that are admitted to possess any literary value, and that all the editions in which this foolish line is omitted are notoriously inaccurate and deficient, and possess not the slightest authority! As to what Mr. Bell desires to be regarded as "the real question"—Is the line fabricated by him? we may confess at once that we never entertained a serious thought for one moment that it was.

### TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

We have great pleasure in informing our readers that at the earnest request of many gentlemen, most anxious for the promotion of geology and its kindred sciences, Sir Roderick I. Murchison, F.R.S., has been induced to consent to be nominated as the successor of the late Sir Henry T. De la Beche, and that a requisition to that effect is in course of signature. Under the auspices of this distinguished geologist, we may hope for the continued success and complete development of the Government scheme, so ably and usefully commenced by its late, much lamented director.

All doubts that may have existed as to the period of opening the Universal Exhibition at Paris, have been removed by the announcement in the official 'Moniteur,' that the opening will decidedly take place on the 1st May, the day originally fixed. The works of art have already been sent in, and the Examining Committee has made its selection; the last day for receiving specimens of manufactured goods was yesterday, the 20th. Although the Exhibition will decidedly take place on the 1st May, it will be a very incomplete one, as it is absolutely impossible that the works remaining to be done, both in the interior and exterior of the Exhibition Palace, can be terminated in time, and, of course, more impossible still, that the multitude of articles to be exhibited can be arranged. The Selecting Commission of Paintings, Sculpture, and other works of Art, has, we are told in our Paris letters, displayed some severity: it has rejected works literally by wholesale, and amongst them are not a few by artists of no mean standing. In the artistic circles of Paris nothing but lamentations and cries are to be heard. It is asserted that of the paintings, sculpture, drawings, engravings, and lithographs, presented by French artists, not quite one-third have been accepted—and of portraits and busts in particular the acceptations have been in the proportion of only two in ten! The total number of works, of different kinds, sent in by Frenchmen, was between 8000 and 10,000. The total number admitted is about 1200—nothing like so great as had been anticipated. In that total Belgium figures for about 200, Germany 400. The contributions of paintings from England are very small, but she sends a great number of *aquarelles* and engravings. Amongst the French victims is M. Courbet, so noted for his paintings of what the French call the *realist* style, and who for some years last past has had the power of creating quite a sensation, at the annual exhibitions, by his extraordinary works; M. Galimard, M. Daubigny the landscape painter, M. Corot, and an official of the gallery of the Luxembourg, whose works were considered so meritorious that the government purchased them in advance. Amongst the victims in sculpture are Etex, Ottin, Elshoeck, Deligand, and Emile Thomas—all more or less celebrated, and the former famous for his sculptures in the grand triumphal arch of the Barrière de l'Etoile. *Appropos* of the exhibition, amongst the projects commenced or projected in connexion with it, may be mentioned the approaching arrival in Paris of an Italian theatrical company from Turin, to play comedy and tragedy at the Italian theatre, Mille. Ristori, the Italian Rachel being at the head of it; also, the probability that Mr. Webster will take over the Adelphi company to give performances.

The Imperial and Royal Progress in the Crystal Palace yesterday passed off with the same brilliant success that has attended all the events of this memorable visit. The number of spectators must have been above thirty thousand, shareholders and

exhibitors being admitted, besides season-ticket holders. The reception of the Emperor and Empress was enthusiastic. The speech at Guildhall, full of manly sense and enlightened policy, has given ground for higher personal respect, apart from the official position of the Emperor.

The ninth annual report of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution displays the continued prosperity and usefulness of this well-conducted and distinguished Association. In the department of lectures, the courses delivered during the winter session presented a most varied range of subjects, and most of the lecturers were men of acknowledged ability and established reputation. An introductory address by a Scottish judge, Lord Neaves, and a concluding address by a Scottish bishop, Bishop Terrot, gave official *clat* to the lecturing department. The Directors report that the library now contains about eight thousand volumes, and gratifying statements are given of the steady increase of the number of readers, and of the daily and yearly average issue of books to the members. The reading room and news room were also more frequented than during any previous year, and this attraction will be sustained by an ample supply of periodicals and newspapers. Few institutions in the country are more completely furnished, in this respect, both with periodicals of general interest and with those devoted to special or to professional subjects. The financial and business part of the report must be highly satisfactory to the members, the revenue having increased, the income exceeding the expenditure, and a reserve surplus fund annually accumulating, notwithstanding the efforts of the Directors to extend the efficiency of the Institution in all its departments. At the annual general meeting, held in the Hall of the Institution, on the 27th ult., The Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay, M.P., was re-elected President of the Institution, on the motion of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, seconded by Dr. Schnitz, Rector of the High School. The names of some of the other gentlemen who took part in the proceedings, or who appear in the list of office-bearers, are well known to us, and we understand the success of the institution, when we see that all classes of the community take interest in its affairs, and that all departments of science, literature and art, are represented in its management.

The third meeting of a Society which has been recently instituted for the purpose of promoting the scientific study of Jurisprudence, was held on Monday last, the 16th instant. This Society, consisting principally of members of the higher branches of the legal profession, it is proposed to add to them other persons who may be distinguished in literature and science, or qualified or desirous to co-operate in carrying out the designs of the Society. The first meeting was opened by an inaugural address from the Solicitor-General, Sir R. Bethell, on the causes of the practical neglect of the above science in this country. This has been followed by papers on the subject of Limited Liability in Commercial Undertakings, by Messrs. Lewis and Begbie, members of the bar; and on Monday last a paper, comprising some highly learned and original views, was read by Professor Maine, D.C.L., on 'The Conception of Sovereignty, and its Importance in International Law.' The meetings of the Society are held at the rooms of the Royal Society of Literature, at 4, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square, on the first and third Monday in every month.

In the last sitting of the Academy of Sciences of Paris, a letter from Professor Harvey, of the University of Dublin, dated Melbourne, the 10th Jan. was read. After stating that the learned writer has been engaged for nearly two years in voyaging to different parts of the world for the express purpose of studying submarine plants, it announces the discovery by him in Australia of an entirely unknown description of plant, to which he proposes to give the name of *Bellotta*, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Lieutenant Bellot, of the French navy, who perished in the search after Sir John Franklin. As a further mark of respect

to the deceased, the Professor expressed the desire that the announcement of his interesting discovery should be made to Europe through the Academy of Sciences. He enclosed in his letter a branch of the plant, and gave the following technical account of it:—"Frons filiformis, solida, umbellatim ramosa, apicibus ramorum fasciculato-comosis. Receptaculum in quoque ramo unicum, cylindricum, medium rami partem circumvestiens et e parame-matibus simplicibus verticalibus (nempe axi ramorum perpendicularibus) dense stipatis constitutum. Spore ad paranematam lateraliter dispositas, oblongas, transversim ebricate."

In the last number of *Notes and Queries*, connected with a series of articles on 'Burnt Books,' is published a letter from Colonel Matthew Stewart, son of Dugald Stewart, affirming that he had destroyed many of his own, and some of his father's manuscripts. The former loss is not deeply to be regretted, but the destruction of any of the works of Dugald Stewart is a more serious matter. We trust there is some mistake in reference to the 'Lectures on Political Economy.' Sir William Hamilton has announced that this will be given in the collected edition of Stewart's works which he is now editing. We trust it has not met the doom denounced upon it by his son, Colonel Matthew Stewart, who, in a letter to Mr. Henry Foss, (of the house of Payne and Foss), dated Catrine, March 30, 1837, declared that he had destroyed the whole of it. "To this step," says the Colonel, "I was much induced by finding my looks repeatedly picked during my absence from home, some of my papers carried off, and some of the others evidently read, if not copied from, by persons of whom I could procure no trace, and in the pursuit of whom I never could obtain any efficient assistance from the judicial functionaries." The perusal of this letter (see *Notes and Queries*, April 7, 1855, p. 261) will satisfy any reader what are the "family reasons" so delicately alluded to by Sir W. Hamilton, for the long-delayed publication of Mr. Stewart's collected Works. Colonel Stewart was one of the many candidates for the chair of Logic in the University of Edinburgh, in 1838. Perhaps *Catrine*, from which the letter is dated, may recall to some of our poetical readers Mr. Stewart's beautiful poem, 'The Vision,' where he says,—

"With deep-struck, reverential awe,  
The learned sire and son I saw;"

which in a note he explains by mentioning "Catrine, the seat of the late Doctor, and present Professor Stewart."

A new volume of poetry, by Victor Hugo, called 'Contemplations,' is announced in Paris. It is stated that, unlike this author's recent publications, it is not to be at all of a political character. The publication of the twelfth volume of M. Thiers' 'History of the Consulate and the Empire' is announced in the same capital. The publishers state that the work is now completely terminated, and that they have now the manuscript of the last three volumes. The work has cost its author immense labour.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has added to his Newspaper Stamp Duties Bill some provisions for securing copyright for the space of twenty-four hours—an arrangement which removes many of the objections against the abolition of the stamp. A penalty ranging from 5*l.* to 30*l.* is declared against each offence, by publishing "any original article, letter, paragraph, communication, or composition, or any material part thereof, or any colourable abridgement or alteration of the same."

The Academy of Sciences of Paris has elected M. Daussey, one of its members, for the section of geography and navigation, in the room of M. Beautemps-Beaupré, deceased.

The death of Dr. Thorsteinson, a noted seaman of Iceland, is announced in the Copenhagen newspapers.

The meeting of the Surrey Archaeological Society and their friends, appointed to take place at Chertsey, on Thursday last, is postponed until Thursday next, the 26th instant.

The *début* of Mlle. Jenny Ney at the Italian Opera, on Thursday, in the somewhat ungracious



part of *Leonora*, was made under such unfavourable circumstances that it would be premature to offer an opinion of her powers, beyond an assurance that she possesses considerable dramatic vigour and a pleasing mode of expression, sustained at times with great force. On the occasion of a royal visit the attention of the audience is directed to every part of the house except the stage, and some ill-humour was generated on Thursday, owing to the doors being kept closed more than half an hour after the usual time, and to the royal and imperial visitors being prevented from coming till nearly ten o'clock. When the party did assemble the effect was brilliant in the extreme. The opera terminated with *clat*, and Cerito was welcomed back with great enthusiasm in the ballet.

The season at the Royal Opera, Drury Lane, commenced on Monday evening, after twice being postponed, with *La Sonnambula*. The part of *Amina*, by Madame Gassier, was a performance of much artistic skill, and her command of high notes rarely reached is surprising. The other parts were well sustained.

The performance of Handel's *Messiah* in aid of the Funds of the Royal Society of Musicians, takes place at Exeter Hall on Monday. On Friday the 27th, the *Israel in Egypt* will be performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society, Madame Clara Novello, Madame Rudersdorff, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Belletti, and Herr Formes, being the chief vocalists. The next of the New Philharmonic Society's concerts at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday, 25th, under the patronage of the Queen and of the Emperor and Empress, is in aid of the funds of the Consumption Hospital at Brompton.

The second of Sir Henry Bishop's concerts, in Exeter Hall, was given on Monday evening, when a selection of this composer's choicest pieces was heard to the highest advantage. Of the solos some were sung by Miss Birch, 'Lo here the gentle lark,' 'Tell me my heart,' and two by Mr. Sims Reeves 'Be mine dear maid,' and 'My pretty Jane.' A new contralto singer, with a voice of great range and power, Miss Heywood, made her first appearance in London on this occasion, and was very favourably received. For concerted-pieces a chorus of nearly two hundred voices was provided. 'Blow gentle gales,' 'Come forth sweet spirit,' 'Hark! Apollo strikes the lyre,' 'Foresters sound the cheerful horn,' 'Under the greenwood tree,' 'The winds whistle cold,' 'Sleep gentle lady,' 'Now tramp o'er moss and fell,' 'The chough and the crow,' and 'Mynheer Van Dunk,' were among the pieces, familiar as household words, in the varied programme. To the regret of the audience Sir Henry Bishop was prevented by illness from being present, but his place at the piano forte was ably supplied by Mr. Land, and the concert was throughout conducted with taste and efficiency. It was an evening's enjoyment of genuine English music of the highest class, and the selection from the composer's numerous works displayed the versatility as well as the excellence of his genius and art. The Hall was well filled, and we trust that the generous and friendly exertions of the committee of management, headed by Mr. Mitchell, will succeed in obtaining for the veteran composer the means of comfortable retirement after so long a life of busy and varied professional duty.

The new comic opera by M. Ambroise Thomas produced as announced in our last, at the Opéra Comique, at Paris, contains some very pretty *morceaux*, but, as a whole, is not very remarkable. At the Théâtre Lyrique, in the same city, M. Ortolan, a young composer, pupil of Halévy, has made his *début* in the two-act opera called *Lisette*; but though not without merit, the piece is sadly deficient in originality. The government, on the solicitation of M. Scribe, has granted permission for the building of a new theatre for the performance of comedies with *ariettes*.

The French Government has just increased the annual subscription to the grand opera by 5600*l*.

Mr. Osborn, the pianist, has been nominated member of the Academy of Saint Cecilia, at Rome.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

**GEOLOGICAL.**—April 4th.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair. J. E. Saunders, Esq., E. S. J. Ridsdale, Esq., G. H. Wathen, Esq., and E. W. Jackson, Esq., were elected Fellows. Sir Roderick Murchison communicated a memoir by himself and Professor Morris, 'On the Palaeozoic Rocks of the Thüringerwald and the Harz,' the chief object of which was to compare those chains of Central Germany, by showing the peculiarities of each, and by indicating how they differed from or agreed with the Silurian basin on the east, and the Devonian rocks of the Rhenish provinces on the west. Their relation to British rocks of the same age was also explained in a large tabular view. The Thüringerwald was first described as containing a considerable portion of the most ancient sedimentary strata which are unknown in the Harz; viz., hard quartzose and slaty grauwacke, void of animal remains, followed upwards by grey slates, sandstones, conglomerates, and partial limestones, the age of which is clearly Lower Silurian, as proved by the genera and species of Trilobites, Orthids, Orthoceratites, and Graptolites, which they contain. These masses, which occur in the Southern Thüringerwald only, are at once overlapped by strata of Upper Devonian age, to the exclusion of the Upper Silurian, so finely developed near Prague, and of the Middle and Lower Devonian (Spirifer Sandstone and Eifel Limestone) of the Rhenish Provinces. Characterized by numerous species of Clymenis and Goniatites, as well as by an abundance of Cypridine and very peculiar land plants, these limestones and schists pass up into other deposits, chiefly sandstones, which clearly belong to the Lower Carboniferous division, as proved by their imbedded plants, and by their containing, in adjacent tracts, products of the mountain limestone as well as partial layers of coal. All these ancient German strata, from the lowest sediments to the millstone grits of English geologists inclusive, have been thrown into highly inclined positions, and constitute, as a whole, those 'Grauwacke' rocks of old geologists, which have been separated by modern researches into distinct natural history groups. Whilst the inclined edges of the older rocks are here and there surmounted by thin coal-bearing courses (Kohlen Gebirge), the chief overlying formations constitute the Permian of Murchison—the base of which, the Rothe-todt-liegende (Angl. Lower Red Sandstone); the middle, the copper slate and Zechstein, with their well known fossils (Magnesian Limestone of England); and its summit, sandy shale and marlstone. In the Harz there are no clear evidence of the same fundamental rock, and no trace of the Lower Silurian, as in Thüringerwald; certain slight indications of the Upper Silurian being doubtful. On the other hand, we there meet with clear evidences of the Lower and Middle Devonian, which, unknown in Bohemia, Saxony, and the Thüringerwald, are so typical of the Rhenish provinces. The Upper Devonian is followed in the Harz by a copious development of the Lower Carboniferous, which, as shown by Professor Sedgwick and Sir Roderick Murchison, in 1839, is the real equivalent of the earlier series of Devonshire, and in parts of which fossils, both animal and vegetable, are not unfrequent. Like the Thüringerwald, the Harz is enveloped so by a girdle of Permian rocks, whose lower member in each chain is associated with much porphyry, the evolutions of which, with its accompanying piles of sediment, have obscured the original strike of the older rocks, from north-east to south-west, and have produced transverse axes or watersheds, the geographical direction of the Thüringerwald being from north-west to south-east, and that of the Harz from west-north-west to east-south-east. These and other views, which cannot be adverted to in an abstract, were elucidated by sections and fossils, and by references to the works and maps of contemporary German authorities. In conclusion, the attention of British geologists was called to the great rupture between the Lower and Upper members of the Carboniferous rocks, which, prevailing throughout Germany and France,

is unknown in England. The memoir terminated by showing that, notwithstanding marked discrepancies in mineral composition, in formations of the same age in different localities, the omission of deposits in one tract which are seen in another, and numerous breaks and disturbances which have extended over large areas, the geologist accustomed to view nature on a great scale, could only consider these as local phenomena, since in spite of all such obscurities he had no insuperable difficulty in determining, by their imbedded fossils, whether these dislocated or insulated masses belonged to the Silurian, Devonian, Carboniferous, or Permian period of the primeval world.

**SOCIETY OF ARTS.**—April 11th.—Edwin Chadwick, Esq., C.B., in the chair. The paper read was, 'On the Mineral Industries of the United Kingdom,' by Mr. Robert Hunt, F.R.S., Keeper of Mining Records. The author commenced by stating that he proposed to direct attention to the progress of our respective mineral industries, taking the several metals in the historic relations in which they stand one to another, to the state in which they are at the present time, and to examine our future prospects. Tin, then, first claimed attention. It was obtained at a very early period in western Cornwall, and the districts westward of Helston and those around St. Austle were those from which the ancients most probably derived their supplies. Tin mining, in the strict sense of the term, was unknown before the time of the Romans, previous to which it was obtained by washing the drift deposits of the valleys. The total quantity of tin ore raised in Cornwall and Devon in 1853 was 8866 tons, the average value of which was 68*l*. per ton, producing 65 per cent., or about 6000 tons of metallic or white tin; we also imported about 2500 tons, and re-exported about 1000 tons of the foreign tin, and rather more British. A process invented by Mr. Robert Asland had lately been put in operation at the Drake Walls mine, for the purification of tin ore. It was essentially one for effecting the combination of the tungstic acid of the wolfram with soda, by roasting and dissolving out the tungstate of soda. A process introduced by Mr. J. A. Phillips, also promised many advantages. Out of the tin produce another branch of mineral industry, though not a very large one, arose. This was the production of arsenic, estimated at 2000 tons annually. The chief market for this was, however, now closed, the principal portion having been used in the preparation of Russian leather. The importance of scientific knowledge to our mining population was well exemplified by the fact, that hundreds of tons of the grey sulphuret of copper had been thrown over the cliffs of the western shores into the Atlantic ocean, and hedges had been built with copper ores of twice the value of the ordinary copper pyrites. Indeed for a long period tin mines were abandoned when the miner came to the *yellow*s—the yellow copper pyrites; and only about one hundred years back was attention drawn to the value of these ores. Now there were about one hundred copper mines in Cornwall, the annual value of the produce of which amounted to 1,200,000*l*. The smelting is carried on at Swansea, where the Cornish copper ore is combined with the rich ore imported from Cuba, Chili, Peru, Spain, South Australia, &c., from which we import some 53,000 tons annually. Last year about 30,000 persons were employed in and about the Cornish mines. Of these 5500 were women, and 5000 children. Nearly all the lead ores raised in this country contained more or less silver,—the ores of Derbyshire, and of the northern counties containing the least, while those of Devon and Cornwall contain the most. Formerly it was not profitable by the processes adopted—the oxidation of lead—to separate the silver when it existed in less proportions than fifteen ounces to the ton. By the process of desilverisation introduced by Mr. H. L. Pattinson, F.R.S., it was now economical to separate the silver when no more than five ounces existed in a ton of lead. A process had lately been introduced

in which zinc was employed in combination with the fused metal; by the action of affinity the silver was thus readily separated. The manufactures of carbonate or white lead, and of a new white lead, which was an oxy-chloride of lead, were then noticed. Nearly the whole of our supplies of zinc ores are derived from the Vieille Montagne, there being but two or three zinc smelting establishments in this country, and few metallurgical processes were more crude than the operation of reducing zinc to the metallic state. The author then alluded in succession to manganese, antimony, nickel, and cobalt, our clays and salt, passing thence to coal and iron. The raw material of our mineral industries may be estimated for the past year at about 34,000,000 sterling. Experience has hitherto done everything for those engaged, science but little. The vast speculation so injurious to legitimate mining, the child of ignorance or fraud, was the direct consequence of the want of that exact observation and system of record which would sooner or later establish some constants by which mining industry might be guided. Again, humanity demanded that no effort should be spared to lessen the frightful loss of life—nearly one thousand men—annually sacrificed in our coal-mining operations.

**STRO-EGYPTIAN.**—April 10th.—D. W. Camps in the chair. 1. Mr. Bonomi read a paper 'On the Assyrian Divinity Nisroch,' illustrated by beautiful drawings of the eagle-headed figure from Nineveh. The argument for this eagle-headed figure from Nineveh being the Assyrian god Nisroch, the particular divinity of Sennacherib, the God of Conquest and Rapine, is supported, in the first place, by the letters composing the name of the god, the word *niser* meaning eagle, or vulture, a word still in use, wherever Arabic is spoken, to designate those birds; the root of which word *niser* means to tear, and therefore applied to the eagle or vulture, which tears its food. The last letter, viz., the (k) or the (och) is presumed to mean chief or lord, which meaning is taken from other Chaldee words when the (k) or (och) seems to require that interpretation, so that the whole word would mean eagle-chief, eagle-lord. But taking into consideration the character of Sennacherib, as exhibited in his message and letter to Hezekiah, and also the character of the monarchs who preceded him on the throne of Assyria, and at the same time the meaning of the word composed of the very same three letters, viz., *n s r* in the Arabic tongue, which word means to conquer, or to subdue, and at the same time, also, the remarkable circumstance of the figure of a man with wings and the head of an eagle, dug out of the ruins of Nineveh, the city of Sennacherib, it became highly presumable that this figure was a representation of the god Nisroch, the particular god of Sennacherib, in whose temple he was murdered by two of his sons. 2. Dr. Benisch, 'On the Cuthite Idol Nergal,' remarked, that if the worship of Malek Taus, or King Cook, can be considered, as advocated by Mr. Ainsworth, as an essential and ancient characteristic of the Isidians, their existence may, from rabbinical sources, be traced back to a high antiquity. For the Babylonian Talmud Treatise, Sanhedrim (folio 68, p. 2), offers the following explanation of 2 Kings, Chap. 17, v. 30, which states that the men of Kuth made Nergal their god. And what was it? A cock. This explanation is adopted by Jewish Biblical commentators of very high authority in loco, such as Kasbi David Kimchi, Abarbanel, and several others. Now, whether the view of the Talmud be correct or not, it shows that at the latest, in the sixth century (at the period of the compilation of that work), the worship of the cock was known and ascribed to a very remote antiquity. Another rabbinical allusion to the cock, as connected with the evil principle, is the following, which is taken from the same Talmud Treatise, Beracoth (fol. 6, p. 2). "He that wisheth to know them, (the evil spirits), let him take sieved ashes and lay them on the bed, and in the morning he will perceive thereon footsteeps of a cock." I may add, that the term *taus* is occasionally found in rabbinical writings, where it is spelled טאוס, and signifies, like the Greek ΤΑΥΣ, peacock. 3. Mr. Ainsworth exhibited, in further proof of the worship of the cock among the Babylonians, or people contemporary with them, as in the present day is the case among the Isidians, two drawings, one of a gem obtained by Mr. Layard at Babylon, being an agate cone, upon the base of which is engraved a winged priest or deity, standing in an attitude of prayer before a cock on an altar; another of a cylinder in the British Museum, upon which is represented a similar subject. Mr. Ainsworth also made some remarks upon the Cuthian and Persian, as also the Syro-Arabian or Semetic roots of the word *nergal*, the first syllable signifying in both fire or light.

**ENTOMOLOGICAL.**—April 2nd.—John Curtis, Esq., F.L.S., President, in the chair. It was announced that the council had determined to distribute among the members the duplicates in the Society's collection of British *Coleoptera*, exotic *Coleoptera*, and exotic diurnal *Lepidoptera*, after the June meeting, without any condition of exchange, hoping only the members would contribute some of the desiderata to the collection. It was also announced that the curator, Mr. Jansson, had accepted Dr. Gray's offer to make a catalogue of British *Coleoptera*, and he would be glad to receive the cooperation and assistance of his brother *Coleopterists*. Mr. Foxcroft sent for exhibition several *Lepidoptera*, including two specimens of *Papilio machaon*, with their pupa-skins, examples of varieties which presented, he said, both in the pupa and perfect state, certain constant differences of marking. Mr. Stainton exhibited two specimens of *Nepticula acetosa* pinned last summer, which already showed signs of verdigris on the pins. Mr. Edward Sheppard exhibited specimens of a *Donacia* on gilt and ungilt pins, the former showed no trace of verdigris, while there was a thick incrustation on the latter. Mr. Edwin Shepherd said the time these insects had been pinned (four months) was not sufficient to prove that gilt pins were not affected by the greasiness of the insects, for he had found that after the lapse of a year gilt pins were affected like the ungilt ones. Mr. Stevens exhibited from the collection of Madame Pfeiffer a pair of the rare beetle, *Euchirus longimanus*. Mr. Stevens read a description, by Mr. Wallace, of a new butterfly, taken by him in Borneo, *Ornithoptera Brookiana*, of which a drawing was exhibited. He also read an extract of a letter from Mr. Wallace, stating that he had captured about 700 *Microlepidoptera* in Borneo. The President read a note, to prove by the observations of Linnaeus, in the 'Fauna Suecica,' that he (the President) had correctly determined the galls recently found in Devon to be the production of *Cynips quercus petioli*. Read—'Observations on the Honey Bee, in continuation of the Prize Essay of the Entomological Society for 1852,' by J. G. Deborough, Esq. Dr. Gray said it might be interesting to announce that Mr. Wollaston had transferred to the British Museum his collection of Madeira insects.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.**—Geographical, 8½ p.m.—(1. Commercial Notes on the State of California. By G. Aikin, Esq., Consul at San Francisco; 2. Letter addressed by Dr. Vogel to Consul Herman, dated Kuka, Sept. 16th, 1854; 3. Letter addressed by Dr. Barth, dated Kano, Nov. 1854, to V-Consul Gagliuffi. Communicated by the Foreign Office; 4. Letter from Lieut. Burton, addressed to the Secretary from Aden, announcing his return from Hurrar, in Abyssinia; 5. Account of the late Earthquake at Brussels. By Consul Sandison. Communicated by the Foreign Office.)
- Tuesday.**—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.
- Antiquaries, 2 p.m.—(Anniversary.)
  - Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—(On the Distribution of Material in the sides of Wrought Iron Beams. By Mr. J. Barton.)
  - Zoological, 9 p.m.
  - Syro-Egyptian, 7½ p.m.—(Anniversary.)
  - Royal Institution, 8 p.m.—(Professor Tyndall on Voltaic Electricity.)

- Wednesday.**—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.—(Lieut. Colonel Cotton on the Public Works of India, with special reference to Irrigation and Roads.)
- London Institution, 7 p.m.—(Anniversary.)
  - R. S. of Literature, 3 p.m.—(Anniversary.)
- Thursday.**—Royal, 8½ p.m.
- Numismatic, 7 p.m.
  - Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Mr. G. Scharf, jun., on Christian Art.)
- Friday.**—Royal Institution, 8½ p.m.—(Sir Charles Lyell on the Origin of certain Trains of Erratic Blocks in the Western Borders of Massachusetts, U.S.)
- Philological, 8 p.m.
- Saturday.**—Medical, 8 p.m.
- Botanic, 4 p.m.
  - Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Dr. Du Bois-Reymond on Electro-Physiology.)

#### VARIETIES.

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**Royal Travellers in Egypt.**—The Duke and Duchess de Brabant left Cairo on the 10th Feb., and, after a journey of six days, arrived at Assuan, the first cataract of the Nile, after stopping a day at Minieh, Siout and Keneh. Escorts of honour, horses and facilities of every kind for long excursions were provided by the several authorities. On their journey from Assuan to Thebes, three days were spent by their Royal Highnesses in examining the memorable sites of Karak and Luxor, and the tombs of the ancient Egyptian kings, which were visited by torch-light. From this point, the two steamers placed at the service of their Royal Highnesses returned to Keneh, and their Royal Highnesses again descended the Nile as far as Beni-Suef, where the most distinguished honours were paid them by the Governor-general of Upper Egypt. The intention of their Royal Highnesses in stopping at Beni-Suef was to explore the dependencies of Fayoum, one of the most fertile provinces of the country. This excursion, under an escort of Bachi-boujoucks, lasted three days, and a most original *fantasia* was exhibited by the Bedouins, on the return of their Royal Highnesses from the lake Moeris.—*Brussels Herald*.

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